# LOK SABHA DEBATES

**(Part I—Questions and Answers)**

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LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

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# LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, 28th September, 1954.*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

## ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### CENTRAL ADVISORY BOARD OF EDUCATION

*1399. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state whether the recommendations of the sub-committee set up by the Central Advisory Board for Secondary Education have been examined?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):** Yes.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know what the recommendations of the sub-committee are with regard to the recommendations of the report?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The recommendations of the sub-committee runs into ten closely typed foolscap pages. It is not possible to give in a few words the recommendations to the hon. Member. But, I may say that these recommendations relate to a change in the pattern of secondary education, establishment of multi-purpose schools, general improvement of teaching in secondary schools, improvement of libraries etc.

**Mr. Speaker:** I think it would be better if a copy is placed on the Table of the House.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** Yes; Sir, I will do it.





**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know what the hon. Minister means by saying that the pattern of education is to be changed?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think let us not spend time over this now. As he said, it is a long note, the hon. Member may study it and put specific questions about the points in it.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if the recommendations of the sub-committee have been circulated to the State Governments and their reactions obtained?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** Yes; they have been circulated to the State Governments and we have up-till now received replies from the following State Governments: PEPSU, Madhya Pradesh, Bombay, Andhra, Punjab, Assam, Travancore-Cochin, Hyderabad, Madras, Saurashtra, Bhopal and West Bengal.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** May I know if the recommendations of the Commission appointed by the Central Ministry of Education have been collated with the recommendations made by the Secondary Education Committees appointed by so many Governments all over India?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** So far this particular sub-committee appointed by the Chairman of C.A.B.E. in the question is concerned, the terms of reference are to make suggestions about the earliest implementation of the recommendations of the Secondary Education Commission.

**Shri S. N. Das:** In view of the fact that the implementation of the recommendations of this Commission will entail sufficient amount of money

to be spent by the various States concerned, may I know whether the Central Government has given any indication to the various State Governments as to the financial aid that the Central Government would be giving to them?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The present scheme that has been circulated to the State Governments involves an expenditure of approximately Rs. 15·96 crores. Out of this sum the Central Government would be required to contribute Rs. 9·76 crores and the State Governments have been asked to contribute Rs. 6·2 crores.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether these recommendations include any specific recommendation for the improvement of students' health and also the necessity to provide for free meals for those deserving students so that they can take advantage to the fullest extent of the education which is given?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The hon. Member should understand that education is a State subject.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** That I know.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** So far as physical health of students is concerned, recommendations have been made.

MILITARISATION OF M. E. S. STAFF

*1401. **Shri V. P. Nayar:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of total M.E.S. basic cadres to be militarised;

(b) the number of M.E.S. basic Subordinate Cadres militarised up-to-date and their categories; and

(c) the expenditure incurred on them per month?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) The total number of posts to be militarised, in seven different cadres, is 1,415.

(b) The number of posts militarised up-to-date is 159 in the various cadres.

(c) The expenditure incurred on the entire posts before and after militarisation comes to Rs. 2,64,240/- p.m. and Rs. 2,63,460/- p.m. respectively.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether any relaxation has been shown in respect of such persons who are militarised, especially in regard to physical qualifications and age?

**Sardar Majithia:** So far as physical qualifications are concerned, people are checked up according to their age, which means that a person who is 45 is not expected to be as fit as a person of 25. So far as the other point—qualification—is concerned, they are qualified.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** My point does not seem to have been understood by the hon. Minister. I want to know whether, in view of the technical qualifications of such persons who are militarised, any relaxation in respect of the general rules which require a certain physical qualification etc., being satisfied, is being shown to these candidates?

**Sardar Majithia:** I have not quite understood the question. As I have already said, physical standards vary with the age.

**Mr. Speaker:** Whatever the physical standards may be for a particular age, has there been any relaxation in that category or group of age, in regard to other qualifications?

**Sardar Majithia:** No such relaxation has been shown.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I know whether it is a fact that, as the bulk of M.E.S. works are executed by contractors; there is great unemployment and the necessity to militarise more and more persons is thereby obviated?

**Sardar Majithia:** No. The necessity arose to militarise them because, when these civillians are posted to units which are on an active war role, difficulties arose regarding administration, discipline and all that. Therefore, it was found necessary to militarise them. Besides, the hon. Member will see that we are saving about Rs. 800 by this step.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** One more question, Sir.

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I am going to the next question.

GRAVITY AND MAGNETIC SURVEYS NEAR CAMBAY

***1402. Shri Dabhi:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 1799 asked on the 4th May, 1953 and state:

(a) the progress that has been made so far in the matter of Gravity and Magnetic Surveys which are being carried on by the Geological Survey of India near Cambay (District Kaira), with the object of finding out structures where possibilities of oil exist; and

(b) the approximate time when the final result of the surveys is likely to be obtained?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) The gravity and magnetic surveys in the area near Cambay have been completed by the Geological Survey of India. It is proposed to follow up the results by seismic work during the ensuing winter field season.

(b) All efforts are being made to complete the investigations quickly but the results may not be available before the end of June, 1955.

**Shri Dabhi:** May I know whether there is any great possibilities of oil being found at these places?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I may explain that these explorations consist of three stages. The early two stages —gravity and magnetic surveys— have been completed. The third stage —seismic work—will be taken up during the next season. After that, it will have to be further followed up by test boring and drilling investigations. It is only after all these that the Geological Survey of India can say whether there are any definite possibilities of oil being found or not.

**Shri Dabhi:** What led Government to select these States for the survey?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Experts examined natural and geological formation of rocks, and indicate possibilities of finding oil underneath.

NATIONAL CENTRE FOR FUNDAMENTAL EDUCATION

***1403. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposal to set up a National Centre for Fundamental Education has been finalised;

(b) if so, the present plan and programme of work; and

(c) the amount of money that has been set apart for the purpose?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 69.]

**Shri S. N. Das:** From the statement it appears that the answer to part (a) of the question is 'No'. In view of the fact that the idea was conceived long ago, may I know whether the hon. Parliamentary Secretary is in a position to say what will be the time taken for this?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** This was a part of the scheme of UNESCO for a world-wide drive to remove illiteracy and to raise the standard of the people; but, afterwards, due to financial considerations and other matters, the UNESCO withdrew their scheme. Now, the scheme has been taken up by the Ministry of Education.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether any estimate has been made by the Government as to the requirements of workers for this sort of education in various States, and if so, what is that estimate?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The present scheme is only to establish one centre in the Capital—I mean Delhi—and therefore, estimates have been prepared for this one centre in Delhi alone.

**Shri S. N. Das:** What is the capacity of this centre to train specialists on Fundamental Education?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** I would require notice, Sir.

SYNTHETIC RICE

*1404. **Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether attempts have been made at large scale production of synthetic rice; and

(b) if so, the quantity produced till June, 1954?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) and (b). So far only experimental samples have been prepared and it is now proposed to produce synthetic rice on a small scale, i.e., about one ton per day, on a pilot plant which is expected to be set up by the end of this year.

**Shri K. P. Sinha:** What about the cost of production per ton?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** That cannot be said just now. The total cost of the plant with accessories comes to about Rs. 1,47,000.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** May I know the necessity for the production of this synthetic rice?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I have answered this question several times but I might inform the hon. Member again that the object of producing this type of rice is to give improved and nutritive type of food in places where mainly tapioca is eaten as staple food and in other poor tracts.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether large quantities of synthetic rice are produced from tapioca and whether machine purchased by the Government for the production of synthetic rice and brought into Travancore-Cochin or Mysore is in working order?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** So far as I know, there is no machine which is producing yet this type of rice either in Mysore or in Travancore-Cochin.

CENTRAL FINGER PRINT BUREAU

*1405. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 1912 asked on the 20th April, 1954 and state:

(a) whether Government have since implemented the decision to establish a Central Finger Print Bureau; and

(b) if so, what are the main functions of the Bureau?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) Not yet. Certain details are still being worked out.

(b) The main functions of the Central Finger Print Bureau will be to keep records of the finger prints of criminals and habitual offenders, with a view to help in the identification of criminals and to undertake comparison of finger prints for the purpose of police investigations. The Central Finger Print Bureau will also maintain contact with foreign institutions of the same type.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know where this Bureau will be established?

**Shri Datar:** It is likely to be established at Kamptee near Nagpur

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi**: May I know who will bear the expenditure?

**Shri Datar**: This is a matter of discussion between the Centre and the State Governments.

RATIONALISATION OF MINERAL PRODUCTS

*1407. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha**: Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Mineral Advisory Board has been invited to make suggestions for rationalisation of mineral products in India;

(b) if so, whether the Board has made any suggestion; and

(c) whether the Board has also been asked to suggest amendments to the Mineral Laws and Rules?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya)**: (a) to (c). A statement giving the recommendations made by the Mineral Advisory Board at their meeting held on the 3rd June, 1954, is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 70.]

**Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha**: May I have an idea of the scheme of working of mines after rationalisation? I wish to know whether power will be concentrated in the hands of the Centre, or the State Governments will have exclusive power over the working of these mines?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya**: The State Governments are substantially given the right to work the mines. If I have correctly understood the hon. Member, he perhaps wants to know what would happen after rationalisation. There are only two schemes which are under examination. One is that small mine owners who do not have adequate finances might form their co-operatives and the Government should encourage them to form these co-operatives. The second is for benefication of low-grade minerals by starting a chain of customs mills in suitable areas?

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad**: Do Government propose to set up customs mills on the pattern of America so that the small mine owners could have the advantage?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya**: That is the proposal.

दया याचिकाएं

*१४१०. **श्री जांगड़े** : क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) १९५३-५४ में विभिन्न राज्यों से, मृत्यु दण्ड पाए हुए अपराधियों द्वारा या उनकी ओर से अन्य व्यक्तियों द्वारा कितनी दया के लिये याचिकायें या क्षमा के लिये प्रार्थनायें मिली हैं; और

(ख) उन में से कितने अपराधियों को क्षमा किया गया है ?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar)**: (a) 428 petitions for mercy or for the grant of pardon were received from or on behalf of convicts under sentence of death during the period from 1st January, 1953, to 15th September, 1954.

(b) Nil.

**Shri Jangde**: May I know whether the Governments have got exclusive power for granting pardons or are they consulted; or the Home Ministry grants pardons without consulting anybody?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju)**: The procedure is that the petition is addressed to the President and that is the usual course. The President acts on advice and the advice is tendered to him by the Home Minister.

**Shri Jangde:** What are the main considerations for the grant of pardon to the convicts who appeal for mercy?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. I do not think I can allow that question.

**Shri Velayudhan:** May I know whether there is any proposal with the Government to abolish capital punishment?

**Dr. Katju:** Not that I know of.

**Shri Amjad Ali:** In view of the fact that Dr. Katju had been writing some articles about the abolition of capital sentence, how does he look into this question now?

**Mr. Speaker:** I think he can make that probe into his private articles elsewhere. I will go to the next question.

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**Shri Rishang Keishing:** Q. No. 1412, Sir.

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** It is rather a long answer. Shall I place it on the Table of the House, or.....

**Mr. Speaker:** I think he has to read it.

RESERVATION OF POSTS FOR SCHEDULED TRIBES IN MANIPUR

*1412. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been decided recently to do away with the reservation of posts in the State Service of Manipur for Scheduled Tribes; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) and (b). The existing reservation of Class I and Class II posts for Scheduled Tribes is 5 per cent. The question relates to Manipur. As regards Class III and Class IV services, it was decided that the percentage of posts to be reserved for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes should be fixed taking into account the population of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in each area. The State of Manipur comprises an area of 8,638 square miles out of which 8,000 square miles or 8/9th of the area are hill tracts populated by Scheduled Tribes. For a variety of reasons, of which language is one, holders of almost all the posts in the offices located in the hill area naturally tend to be members of the tribes inhabiting that area. Out of 1,612 Class III posts under the Manipur Administration, 382 (or 23·6 per cent) are at present held by members of the Scheduled Tribes. In view of the necessity for knowing the local language, this percentage is not likely to be affected in the near future. On the other hand, with the progress of education among the Scheduled Tribes, it is likely that they will be able to obtain more and more posts in offices located in the Manipur Valley also. The Manipur Administration is of the view that it is not desirable to accentuate the division between the Hill and valley peoples of the Manipur State by specific reservation of posts.

**Mr. Speaker:** I should like to suggest that in cases where the answers are so long as that, the hon. Minister might say that he lays the statement on the Table of the House so that the hon. Member who is tabling the question may have an opportunity of reading it and then putting the supplementary questions.

**Dr. Katju:** We shall adopt it in future. I gave sufficient warning before reading that long answer, Sir.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** The hon. Minister has just said that reservation of posts for Class I and II is five per cent. May I enquire why the reservation is not fixed on population basis in view of the fact that 37 per cent. of the population in Manipur consists of hill tribes?

**Dr. Katju:** But the number of reservations cannot go strictly on a population basis. I am not quite sure whether thirty-seven per cent. are hill tribes. I take that figure from my hon. friend as correct, for he

knows it much better than I do. But I should like to give this assurance to him and to all the people of Manipur that there can be nobody who can be more anxious than myself and the Manipur Administration to give the largest amount of employment to tribal people not only in the tribal areas, but also in the Manipur Valley. I shall look into this matter most carefuly and see that nothing which may be called unfair is done to the tribal people. The matter is under consideration.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** Are Government aware that all the hill tribes of Manipur are against the decision of the Advisory Council to do away with the reservation, and that the hill people have requested the Government of India to render necessary advice to the State Government to defer their decision?

**Dr. Katju:** I am not aware of that, but I take that from my hon. friend.

DIVISIONS OF THE GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

***1413. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the particular achievement of the Engineering Geology and Ground Water Division of the Geological Survey since its formation; and

(b) whether there are any foreigners employed in this Division?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) A statement giving the required information is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 71.]

(b) No, Sir.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** I find from the statement that ground water investigation is proceeding on a more or less scientific basis. Could we take it from Government that Government have discarded dependence on quacks and water diviners for this purpose?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** Government do not depend on quacks for any purpose.

MINING LEASES

***1414. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Bihar have requested the Central Government to frame rules for the reduction of the period and areas of leases of mining land in that State; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government in this regard?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) and (b). No, not in a general way, but such suggestions have been made by Bihar Government with regard to manganese and iron ore mines.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** The hon. Deputy Minister has stated, "not in a general way". May I know the nature of the leases in respect of which the Government of Bihar have approached the Government of India to reduce their period and area?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** According to strict rules, the mining lease can be granted for any area subject to a maximum of ten square miles. Perhaps, the Bihar Government want to reduce this area. Similarly, for the period also, they want some reduction,—speaking subject to correction—from thirty years to twenty years. But as all these questions relate to the entire country, the Government of India are still giving their consideration to such proposals, and have not accepted the proposal of Bihar.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know the irregularities, which have been committed in leasing out these mines, and because of which the Government of Bihar have approached

the Government of India to reduce their period and area?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I could not follow the question.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know the reasons which the Bihar Government had for the purpose of making these proposals of reduction in the period and the area.

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I cannot exactly enumerate the reasons which have led the Bihar Government to make these proposals. But as all these questions cover the entire country, we are giving our due consideration to all of them, and we will see whether these proposals can be accepted in a modified way or not.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What are the special difficulties which the Bihar Government are experiencing in regard to these leases, on account of which they have appointed the Government of India?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** I do not know fully about them. They have got their own problems there. Perhaps, too big areas have been allotted by out-going Zamindars of any other.

JET AERO-ENGINE FACTORY

***1416. Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state the extent to which proposals for the establishment of a Jet Aero-Engine factory in India have progressed?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** The proposal is yet in an exploratory stage.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether Rolls Royce Ltd. have submitted any preliminary project report to Government, and if so, whether that report has been prepared in consultation with Government?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** There are some negotiations going on with Messrs. Rolls Royce, Limited. A team of experts from that company visited India, toured several engineering establishments in this country, and then submitted a report which is under Government's consideration.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether any estimate of the total cost has been worked out, and if so, what is that estimated cost?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** No firm estimate has been worked out so far.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** May I know whether the expert team that visited this country has selected some suitable sites for the establishment of this industry?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Yes, if this factory is set up in the near future on the recommendation of Messrs. Rolls Royce, it may be set up alongside the Hindustan Aircraft Limited, Bangalore.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** May I know whether other foreign companies have been approached by this country for technical aid to start aeroplane manufacturing concerns or factories?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Preliminary negotiations were carried on with several companies, but at the moment, the matter is being pursued only with one company. There is no finality about it so far.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Was there any offer by..

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Next question.

LEVY OF INCOME-TAX (COFFEE PLANTATIONS)

***1417. Shri N. M. Lingam:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for levying income-tax on the incomes accruing from coffee plantations; and

(b) if so, the grounds on which such a levy is contemplated?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) and (b). There

is no new proposal. However, as the Income-tax Act stands, a certain part of the profits from the production of coffee can, in certain circumstances, he liable to income-tax. Action has been taken to make the necessary assessments in such cases.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** In view of judicial pronouncements both by a High Court and the Privy Council that coffee-curing is not in the nature of a manufacturing process, may I know the immediate provocation for Government to contemplate this new impost on an already heavily-taxed industry?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** There is no question of a new imposition of income-tax. The matter was considered by the Central Board of Revenue, whether a certain portion of business profits can be taxed or not, and they came to the conclusion that a certain part can be taxed. The matter is now before the Taxation Enquiry Commission, and we are awaiting the recommendations of the Taxation Enquiry Commission on that point.

**Shri N. M. Lingam:** May I know whether Government are aware that coffee plantations are already subject to agricultural income-tax in States, and the tax proposed will be the last straw to break the camel's back?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

**Shri N. Somana:** May I know what portion of the coffee that is grown is to be taxed by the Centre?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** In the case of profit, when there is business, certain parts have been decided to be taken as profit in the business, and that can be taxed. As I have said earlier, this matter has been referred to the Taxation Enquiry Commission, and we are hoping to get their recommendations on this point very soon.

**Mr. Speaker:** Next question.

**Shri N. Somana:** One question.

**Mr. Speaker:** He is arguing. It is a question of interpretation of the Indian Income-tax Act, really speaking. If they have any dissatisfaction, they can have it adjudged by the court.

**Shri N. Somana:** So far, it has not been taxed all these years...

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order. Next question.

VAMPIRES

*1419. **Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to a news item to the effect that 100 Vampires of Indian Air Force have had to be grounded for want of spare parts and that the grounded machines were being stripped to provide spare parts for the few that are still in commission at Palam station, Delhi; and

(b) if so, what are the facts thereof?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) and (b). Government have seen the article in the 'Current' of Bombay, dated the 4th September, 1954. There is no truth in the report published therein.

But for a few of these aircrafts which are, at the moment, awaiting the supply of spare parts, many of which are manufactured at Hindustan Aircraft Limited, all are airworthy. Government are satisfied with the state of serviceability of the Vampires and the supply position of their spare parts.

**Shri Gidwani:** It is said that some of them have been manufactured here, while others have been purchased from elsewhere. May I know from where they have been purchased, and through which particular agency?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I have not said in the answer that complete aircrafts are manufactured here. The fact is that the Vampire aircrafts are assembled at the Hindustan Aircraft Limited. Many of the spare parts of the air-frame are manufactured at the Hindustan Aircraft Limited.

**Shri Gidwani:** These 100 'planes were purchased from outside. I want

to know through which agency and from which country they were purchased.

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I have no idea. We have more than 100 Vampires. I do not know the previous history as to when and through whom they were purchased. The hon. Member may give notice of a separate question.

**Shri Meghnad Saha:** May I know if the raw materials needed for replacement of these aeroplane parts and manufacture of aeroplanes, such as aluminium and steel, are available in this country, and if they are not available, whether Government are considering any proposal for having these materials in this country?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Government are actively considering the possibility of developing as early as possible the aircraft industry in this country and of manufacturing the raw materials etc. to the extent possible within the technological capacity of the country.

EXPORT OF INDIAN FILMS

*1420. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state to what extent if any, has the decision of the Film Federation of India to ban the export of Indian films to Pakistan affected the amount of foreign exchange earned on exports?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** I presume the hon. Member is referring to the resolutions passed by the Indian Motions Picture Producers' Association, Bombay, on the 26th August, 1954. It is too early to say what, if any, effect this resolution will have on our foreign exchange earnings.

**Shri Sanganna:** May I know whether any of the recommendations made by the Film Inquiry Committee appointed by the Government of India under the chairmanship of Shri S. K. Patil, has dealt with this question?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** That question can be addressed to the Minister of information and Broadcasting. Here the question is about the effect of the resolution on the foreign exchange position. I can give information about that.

**Shri Sanganna:** I want to know whether that report dealt with the financial aspect of this industry.

**Mr. Speaker:** He wants to know if it has dealt with the financial aspect.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** They have dealt also with the financial aspect, but not with regard to this.

MINISTERS' DISCRETIONARY FUND

*1421. **Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount of grants so far paid out of the Education Ministers' Discretionary Fund this year; and

(b) the details of the amount paid?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) Rs. 61,062.

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 72.]

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Are the purposes for which these grants are available specified?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** These grants from this fund are given to such organisations and institutions which are doing experimental and pioneering work in the field of education and which are otherwise not eligible for regular grants for some technical reasons.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia:** A sum of Rs. 10,000 is said to have been paid to Shri Mahamahopadhaya Shri Haridas Siddhanta Bagish, Calcutta. For what purpose has this grant been given?

**Dr. M. M. Das**: This amount has been given to Shri Mahamahopadhaya Shri Haridas Siddhanta Bagish, Calcutta, as grant-in-aid to this scholar for publication of an annotated edition of Mahabharata. The book will contain original slokas of Vyasa, the original commentary of Nilakanta, a new and exhaustive commentary in Sanskrit, and Bengali translation by the author.

**Shri K. C. Sodhia**: What is the maximum amount that can be had out of this grant?

**Dr. M. M. Das**: I am speaking subject to correction. There is a limit to to the amount of individual grant, but there is a limit to the total amount that can be given by the Minister as discretionary grant also, that is, the annual amount.

**Shrimati A. Kale**: Can Mahamahopadhaya Kane, who wants to publish Sanskrit books, be given a grant?

**Dr. M. M. Das**: If an application is made, then it will be considered on its merits.

## उत्तुंग गवेषणा केन्द्र

*१४२२. **श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या **प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा** मंत्री १४ मई, १९५४ को पूछे गये तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या २५०५ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि उस के बाद से अन्तरिक्ष किरण गवेषणा केन्द्र के अतिरिक्त उत्तुंग गवेषणा केन्द्र का स्थापना के सम्बन्ध में प्रगति हुई है ?

**प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा उपमंत्री (श्री के० डी० मालवीय)** : डा० के० आर० रामनाथ जो कौंसिल आफ साइंटिफिक एंड इन्डस्ट्रियल रिसर्च की हाई आल्टिट्यूड रिसर्च कमेटी के चैअरमैन हैं, उन को १९५४ के मई मास में कश्मीर में गुलमर्ग और लद्दाख में लेह, इस प्रकार की जांच-पड़ताल करने के लिये भेजा गया था। उन की रिपोर्ट आने वाली है।

**श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि इस गवेषणा केन्द्र के सम्बन्ध में अब तक किन किन स्थानों की जांच-पड़ताल की जा चुकी हैं तथा उन के बारे में विशेषज्ञों ने क्या सम्मतियां दी हैं ?

**श्री के० डी० मालवीय** : कौंसिल आफ साइंटिफिक और इन्डस्ट्रियल रिसर्च ने सन् १९४८ से इस सम्बन्ध में कार्रवाई शुरू की है। पहले इस समिति ने एक कमेटी बना कर के यह आदेश दिया कि किसी १६,००० फीट ऊंची जगह पर ऐसा केन्द्र बनाया जाय जो प्राकृतिक हालतों का अनुसंधान करे और उस की अलग अलग रिपोर्ट पेश कर के हमें बतलाये। लेकिन इन चार पांच वर्षों के बीच में कई मीटिंगें हुई और बोर्ड ने जो रिपोर्ट विशेषज्ञों से मंगाई और युनिवर्सिटीज से भी मंगाई, उन से मालूम हुआ कि इस प्रकार की बहुधंधी अनुसंधान समिति ऊंचाई पर नहीं बन सकती है क्योंकि उस एक समिति द्वारा सारा काम पूरा नहीं हो सकता है। इसलिये काम बांट दिया गया। अभी हाल में ही कास्मिक रे पर अनुसंधान करने के लिये डा० भाभा और उन के साथ कई और विशेषज्ञ गये थे। उन्होंने जांच-पड़ताल कर के अपनी एक रिपोर्ट पेश की है। डा० रामनाथन भी दूसरे अनुसंधान के लिये गये थे। वह दूसरी रिपोर्ट पेश करने वाले हैं। जब दोनों रिपोर्टें गवर्नमेंट के सामने आ जायेंगी तो गवर्नमेन्ट उन के ऊपर कोई निश्चय करेगी।

**श्री भक्त दर्शन** : इस सम्बन्ध में अन्तिम निर्णय होने की कब तक आशा की जा सकती है और अब तक जो देरी हुई उस का क्या विशेष कारण है ?

**श्री के० डी० मालवीय** : जहांतक कास्मिक रे का सम्बन्ध है उस के बारे में एटमिक एनर्जी कमीशन कोई निश्चय करेगा, और दूसरा प्रश्न नेचुरल रिसोर्सेज मिनिस्ट्री का है। उस पर वह गौर करेगी। मुझे आशा है कि जैसे ही यह रिपोर्टें आ जायेंगी, उन पर गौर करने के बाद फैसला किया जायेगा।

INDIAN AND NEPALESE CURRENCY

*1424. **Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that, of late, there has been a steep rise in the value of Indian Currency in relation to the Nepalese Currency;

(b) if so, the reason therefor;

(c) the present rate of exchange;

(d) whether there is any proposal to maintain stability in the exchange rate of the two countries; and

(e) if so, the nature of the proposal?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The rise in the exchange rate is stated to be due to the increased demand for Indian rupees for making payments to meet the cost of large imports which the Nepalese traders are making from India.

(c) The rate of exchange has been fluctuating from time to time. During the last week it was roughly Rs. 150—Nepalese Currency to Rs. 100—Indian.

(d) and (e). The maintenance of stability in the exchange rate between Nepalese and Indian currency in the concern of the Nepal Government.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether it is a fact that this Himalayan country is experiencing great inflationary pressure, and if so, whether this steep rise is due to that?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** As I said, because of the increase in the imports from India, they are experiencing shortage of Indian rupees in the Khatmandu Valley, where more imports are taking place. Therefore, there is this difficulty.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** I want to ask whether it is a fact that a representative from the Reserve Bank of India was sent to Nepal and he had made some suggestions to stabilise the rate of exchange. I also want to know what steps have been taken to stabilise the exchange rate.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** To the first part of the question, the answer is in the affirmative. An officer was sent. But the action is to be taken by the Nepal Government.

**Shri L. N. Mishra:** May I know whether it is a fact that the representative of the Reserve Bank of India had suggested that Nepal should cut down the imports of luxury goods from foreign countries to stabilise the rate of exchange?

**Mr. Speaker:** He has said that it is a matter for the Nepal Government, It is not for the Centre.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad** *rose*—

**Mr. Speaker:** We will go to the next question.

MILITARY LANDS AND CANTONMENTS SERVICE

*1425. **Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of foreigners employed in 1947 at the time of partition in Military Lands and Cantonments Services; and

(b) the number of those who are still in service?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) None.

(b) The question does not arise.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Is it a fact that the wife and children of one of the Deputy Directors, who has accepted Indian citizenship after independence, are still foreign nationals?

**Sardar Majithia:** I require notice for the wife; she is not under our employment.

**Shri G. P. Sinha** *rose*—

**Mr. Speaker:** We will go to the next question. He refers to an individual case only.

**Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will Government consider the appointment of some

I.A.S. Officer as the Director of Military Land and Cantonment Services?

**Mr. Speaker:** Order, order.

GRANT TO THE PUNJAB UNIVERSITY

*1426. **Lala Achint Ram:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the reply to Starred Question No. 2508 asked on the 14th May, 1954 and state:

(a) whether the grant of Rs. 80 lakhs asked for by the Punjab University for its rehabilitation has since been sanctioned by the University Grants Commission; and

(b) if so, the amount actually sanctioned and paid during the years 1953-54 and 1954-55?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) and (b). The University Grants Commission considered the Punjab University's request for a grant of Rs. 72.0 lakhs under various heads of development and rehabilitation and have called for certain detailed information from the University. However, in 1953-54, a grant of Rs. 1,50,000/- was paid by the Commission to the Punjab University for development of post-graduate studies in science subjects. A grant of Rs. 300,000/- has also been sanctioned during 1954-55.

**लाला अचित राम :** क्या गवर्नमेंट कुछ और रुपया देने की भी सोच रही है ?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** The request of the Punjab University for the grant of Rs. 72 lakhs is under consideration of the Government—I mean the University Grants Commission.

जिला मजिस्ट्रेट

*१४२८-क, **श्री रामजी वर्मा :** क्या गृह-कार्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) कलक्टर और जिला मजिस्ट्रेट के पद के लिए क्या योग्यता निर्धारित की गई है ,

(ख) क्या कोई ऐसा नियम है कि राज्य असैनिक सेवा का कोई भी कर्मचारी केन्द्रीय सरकार की पूर्व मंजूरी के बिना इस पद पर नियुक्त नहीं किया जा सकता ,

(ग) यदि हां, तो क्या इस नियम के विपरीत उत्तर प्रदेश में कुछ नियुक्तियां की गई हैं, और

(घ) यदि हां, तो किन जिलों में ऐसी नियुक्तियां की गई और उनके क्या कारण थे ?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) and (b). There are no qualifications as such prescribed for posts of Collectors and District Magistrates. In all States which have participated in the All-India Service Schemes, *i.e.* all Parts A and B States (except Jammu and Kashmir) and also the State of Vindhya Pradesh, these posts are earmarked for officers of the Indian Administrative Service. The State Governments may, however, make temporary appointments of non-Indian Administrative Service officers to these posts in the circumstances referred to in Rule 9 of the Indian Administrative Service (Cadre) Rules which have been placed on the Table of the House, and subject to the conditions mentioned therein.

(c) and (d). According to the latest information available with the Government of India, 11 posts of District Magistrate and Collector are held at present by officers not belonging to the Indian Administrative Service. Of these 11 posts, 5 are held by officers who have been approved for holding senior I.A.S. posts under the existing Rules. The cases of the remaining six officers who are posted to the Districts mentioned below are being referred to the Union Public Service Commission:—

1. Saharanpur.
2. Badaun.
3. Shahjahanpur.
4. Gazipur.
5. Partapgarh.
6. Tehri Garhwal.

**श्री भक्त दर्शन** : क्या गवर्नमेंट के ध्यान में यह बात आयी है कि उत्तर प्रदेश में कई जिलों में केवल पांच वर्ष के आई० ए० एस० अफसरों को डिस्ट्रिक्ट मजिस्ट्रेट के महत्वपूर्ण पद पर नियुक्त कर दिया गया है, और क्या इस बारे में कोई निश्चित आदेश दिये गये हैं ?

**Shri Datar**: Sir, it is likely that some cases must have occurred. But, ultimately, they have to make a reference to the Government with a view to follow the rules. Rules have been laid down and they make a reference to the Government of India in these cases.

NATIONAL PLAN LOANS

*1429. **Shri Matthen**: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact, that the Public Debt Office has been unduly delaying the issue of bonds against applications for the National Plan Loan; and

(b) if so, the action Government propose to take in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah)**: (a) and (b). There has been some delay at a few places, particularly at Madras. This is due mainly to the practice of issuing loan scrips only after the credits of subscriptions, as reported by the Treasury Officers, have been verified by the Accountants General. In Madras, an additional difficulty was that, for want of space, the staff of the Public Debt Office could not be augmented earlier to deal with the large number of applications. Public Debt Officers have recently been authorised to issue loan scrips without waiting for the formal verification of credits. The Public Debt Office in Madras has also been moved into a large premises recently. It is expected that all outstanding applications will be dealt with within a very short period.

**Shri Matthen**: Is it true that there have been delays of three and four months?

**Shri M. C. Shah**: I said there was delay.

**Shri Matthen**: Does the Government realise that this is tantamount to freezing of credit, especially rural credit, on account of waiting for these loan scrips?

**Shri M. C. Shah**: The Government are conscious of the fact, and, therefore, they have issued instructions very recently that without waiting for the verification, as required in the rules, they should issue these loan scrips.

**Shri Matthen**: Will the Reserve Bank set up an enquiry committee regarding this matter?

**Shri M. C. Shah**: I think it is not now necessary because, applications have been disposed of very quickly. I will just give the figures. It will be seen that out of the 22,549 applications in Bombay, the balance is only 4,475; in Calcutta out of 3,226 applications, only 834 are pending and they must be disposed of before the middle of October; in Delhi out of 10,689 only 2,206 are pending and in Madras, out of 14,855 the number pending was 12,585 and most of these might have been disposed of under the orders.

M.E.S. STAFF

*1430. **Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani**: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any scale of pay and allowances has been fixed for the Assistants-in-Charge in post-war cadre of the M.E.S.;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether any representations have been received in this behalf; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra)**: (a) No regular scale of pay as such has been sanctioned for the posts of Assistant-in-Charge in the Military Engineering Service. Under the existing orders, clerks who are appointed to hold

charge of seven or more clerks are designated as Assistants-in-Charge and are allowed a charge allowance of Rs. 20/- p.m. in addition to the pay admissible to them as Upper Division Clerks.

(b) As a charge allowance is admissible for the supervisory duties, it was not considered necessary to prescribe a separate scale of pay.

(c) and (d). Representations were made by the administrative authorities about two years ago but it was not considered necessary to modify the existing orders. However, the position is being reviewed.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Is it a fact, Sir, that these Assistants have to perform supervisory duties involving considerable responsibility and others performing similar supervisory duties are paid much more in the same service?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Sir, it is true that supervisory duties are also performed by Superintendents or Head-Clerks etc. But, then the number of people working under them is very large. In other establishments a clerk is made Assistant-in-charge over six or seven clerks only and paid some allowance.

FACILITIES FOR STUDIES ABROAD

*1431. **Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the facilities provided to private students who go abroad for study, by the Indian Missions in foreign countries; and

(b) what kind of help is given by the Government of India for the welfare of such students?

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education (Dr. M. M. Das):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 73].

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** From the statement it appears that some financial assistance is given. May I know what kind of assistance is given; whether it is loan or help?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** I have answered this particular question more than once in this session. It is a loan given to the students who are studying or want to study in foreign countries.

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** May I know how many students are studying in the U.K. and how many in America?

**Mr. Speaker:** Does it refer to loan or grant?

**Shri Krishnacharya Joshi:** I wanted to know the number of students studying in the U.K. and the United States.

**Dr. M. M. Das:** I have not got the figures, Sir.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal:** May I know how many applications were there and how many were rejected?

**Dr. M. M. Das:** Sir, the number of the total applications is not with me at present. But, as regards the second part of the question, I may say that the Government of India have not withheld the application of any student wishing to go to a foreign country except in the case of those applying for admission to the Air Services Training Ltd., Hamble, U.K. In this case, the applicants were advised to get their training in India and their applications were not forwarded. This was done under the advice of the Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Communications.

SAMPLE SURVEY OF UNEMPLOYMENT

*1432. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the filled-in-schedules prepared in the Sample Survey of Unemployment undertaken at different places in India have been analysed and results of the survey completed;

(b) if so, the important points discovered in the survey; and

(c) whether Government have scrutinised the results and taken them into consideration for future development work?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) The schedules in respect of the survey of persons in the live register of the Delhi Employment Exchange have been analysed and a report of this survey has been analysed and a report of this survey has been prepared. The schedules in respect of other unemployment surveys are still being analysed, and, in some cases, the reports are being drafted.

(b) The main conclusions arrived at on the basis of the survey of persons in the live register of the Delhi Employment Exchange are given in Chapter III of the National Sample Survey Report No. 4 issued by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance. Copies of this Report have already been placed in the Library of the House. The Reports in respect of other unemployment surveys have not yet been finalised.

(c) After the results of all the surveys have been tabulated and reports received by Government, the matter will be considered.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know how long more the Government will take to finalise all these results?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** We are just trying to expedite it.

**Shri S. N. Das:** May I know whether, after all these surveys are analysed, the Government will lay a copy of a concise statement for the use of Members of the House?

**Shri M. C. Shah:** That will be certainly considered by the Government.

**Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Since the question of employment and unemployment is a fluctuating thing in the life of the nation, has the Government any plan to make this permanent so that the sample survey may give us every year the position in regard to employment and unemployment in the country.

**Shri M. C. Shah:** For the time being, the Planning Commission has decided to have sample survey in 23 urban areas. At the same time they have also decided an enquiry into unemployment in Travancore-Cochin State. Then, they have also decided to have extensive sample surveys in Calcutta and after all these reports are received, the Government will consider the suggestion made by the hon. Member.

MECHANISATION OF MINES

*1433. **Shri Nageshwar Prasad Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Expert Committee was appointed to go into the question of 'Mechanisation of Mines' and for starting a mechanisation centre for the coal industry in India;

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether it has submitted its report; and

(d) if so, what are its recommendations relating to coal mines?

**The Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Shri K. D. Malaviya):** (a) to (d). Yes Sir. The Committee was constituted in February, 1953, but could not meet till 6th September, 1954, because two of the experts of the Committee, one of whom, Mr. D. N. Prasad, the convener, were abroad. Dr. Prasad returned to India in February, 1954, and a meeting of the Committee was fixed for June, 1954. Unfortunately, Dr. Prasad fell ill and the meeting had therefore to be postponed to 6th September, 1954. The report of the Committee is awaited.

**Shri Nanadas:** May I know whether the members of the Committee have been given an opportunity to visit foreign countries where this kind of mechanisation is in practice?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** All the Members were not given the opportunity of visiting abroad. Dr. Prasad took advantage of one of his foreign visits to visit the mechanisation centres in U.K. and especially the Sheffield centre of machanisation of coal mining. While the meeting was going to take place, unfortunately he fell ill and, therefore, the Committee had to be postponed to learn from his experiences.

**Shri Raghavaiah:** May I know whether this mechanisation is confined only to coal mines or whether other mines like mica are included?

**Shri K. D. Malaviya:** This question is related to mechanisation of coal mines only.

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLIES FOR MANIPUR AND TRIPURA

*1434. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state the action Government propose to take on the demand of the people of Manipur and Tripura for setting up Legislative Assemblies in their respective States?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** The future of these important frontier States is under consideration of the States Reorganisation Commission and pending their report Government do not propose to take any action in the matter.

**Shri Rishang Keishing:** The people of Manipur and Tripura have been demanding from the Central Government the setting up of Legislative Assemblies in their respective States since 1949. May I therefore know what this demand of the people of these two States has to do with the report of the States Reorganisation Commission?

**Dr. Katju:** Since 1949, five years have elapsed, and this question probably must have been discussed when the Constitution was passed. The States Reorganisation Commission has been charged with the duty of considering the whole question of reorganisation of States, and I think that will be a suitable opportunity considering this matter. My hon. friend knows very well the position occupied by these two frontier States. Now that we have waited for five years, I think that we might wait for another six or nine months because their report will be in hand by the 30th June next year and then we can see the entire picture and take a decision.

ORDNANCE OFFICERS (CIVILIANS)

*1435. **Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of Ordnance Officers (Civilians) in the Army Ordnance Corps at the time of the appointment of the Armed Forces Nationalisation Committee;

(b) whether the Armed Forces Nationalisation Committee examined the cases of Ordnance Officers (Civilians);

(c) if so, the recommendations of that Committee; and

(d) how far they have been implemented?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) About 700.

(b) and (c). The cadre of Ordnance Officers (Civilians) was manned by Indians and, as such, the Committee did not have to go through their cases. The Committee, however, recommended that when the peace strength of the I.A.O.C. (now A.O.C.) and the proportion of that strength to be filled by civilian personnel are fixed, the selection of Ordnance Officers (Civilians) as are to be permanently retained should be made through the Federal (now Union) Public Service Commission, and a senior officer of the A.O.C. should be associated with the Commission for this purpose. Confirmations of Ordnance Officers (Civilian) are, accordingly being made on the basis of merit as adjusted by a

Departmental Promotion Committee consisting of:—

A member of the Union Public Service Commission.—*Chairman.*

A Joint Secretary in the Ministry of Defence—*Member.*

Director of Ordnance Services.—*Member.*

(d) 87 Ordnance Officers (Civilians) have so far been confirmed.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** The Deputy Minister said that the cases of these officers are considered on merits. May I know how many categories have been formed for considering their cases and whether those categories conform to the existing Army Rules which have been framed for the purpose of retention and retrenchment?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I do not know what the hon. Member wants because there are two categories of Army Ordnance Officers (Civilian). There are direct recruits to the cadre and then there are persons who have been promoted from a lower cadre. I presume he is referring to direct recruits. There are four categories for assessing merit of directly recruited officers—outstanding, above average, average and below average. A Departmental Promotion Committee presided over by a member of the Union Public Service Commission decides the merit and confirms the officers.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** May I know whether the Home Ministry rule also prescribes these four categories for civil Ordnance Officers and whether the cases of these officers will be referred to the Union Public Service Commission on the basis of the Home Ministry instructions?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** Normally, as far as I think, according to the Home Ministry's regulations, there are three categories A, B and C. In this case, the number of these officers is to be considerably reduced, to bring it down to the requirements of peace-time strength of the Army. Some of them are to be replaced by military officers. So, there is a fourth category which consists of persons unfit for permanent retention in military service. Some of them are being gradually wasted out.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** What is the peace-time strength of these officers which the Government has laid down? May I know whether all the officers who are surplus will be retrenched during this year?

**Shri Satish Chandra:** I do not think there is going to be any retrenchment during the current year. There are at present about 360 officers, both departmental as well as direct recruits. The direct recruits and departmental recruits are in the proportion of 2:1. Out of these only 110 officers are ultimately to be retained. Many of them are being found alternative employment. Only recently, the Labour Ministry has agreed to appoint 22 of these officers as civilian labour officers in defence installations.

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

### CIVILIAN DEFENCE PERSONNEL

*1400. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
**Shri Punnoose:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have come to any decision regarding the percentage of permanent cadre among industrial cadres of Civilian Defence personnel based on the recommendations of the Kalyanvala Committee Report;

(b) if so, whether a copy thereof will be laid on the Table of the House; and

(c) by what time the decision is likely to be implemented?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) The

matter is still under consideration but the present intention is that 40 per cent. of the industrial posts in Army Establishments as on 1st September, 1953, would be declared permanent. The same percentage would apply to all Ordnance Factories which did not exist before the war. For Naval and Air Force installations, however, and for Ordnance Factories which existed before the war, the percentage would be 50.

These percentages are, however, of tentative character and subject to alteration as a result of detailed examination of the establishments.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government orders are likely to be issued shortly.

EXTERNAL ACCOUNTS

*1406. **Shri S. C. Singhal:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been a favourable balance in the foreign trade in the second quarter of this year;

(b) if so, to what extent; and

(c) whether the import has increased or decreased in this period as compared to the previous period?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) According to preliminary estimates, there was a deficit on trade account of Rs. 35.7 crores during the second quarter of 1954.

(c) During the second quarter, imports amounted to Rs. 160 crores, showing an increase of Rs. 23.5 crores over the previous quarter. These estimates are also preliminary.

GRANTS TO STATE GOVERNMENTS

*1408. **Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total amount of grants paid to various State Governments during 1954-55 to cover their revenue deficits?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** The total amount so far paid is Rs. 2,95,90,000.

SUBSTITUTE FOR PETROL

*1409. **Shri M. R. Krishna:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any experiments have been made to produce a substitute for petrol for the use of cars and aircrafts in India; and

(b) whether it is a fact that pulverised Magnesium is now found to be a better fuel for cars and aircrafts in the United States?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) No, Sir. However, a proposal for setting up a synthetic petrol plant is under consideration.

(b) It is understood that experiments have been conducted in the United States which have shown that pulverized magnesium is very efficient in rockets and high altitude aircraft. It is not possible to comment on the efficiency of pulverized magnesium as a fuel for automobiles but it is quite clear that the explosion hazards would be very severe.

TOBACCO ASH

*1411. **Shri S. V. L. Narasimham:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any research has been made on the utility of tobacco ash as insecticide or fungicide;

(b) the results of such research, if any; and

(c) the possibilities of manufacture of tobacco ash on a commercial scale?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) to (c). No. research has been carried out on the utility of tobacco ash. As a result of researches conducted at the

National Chemical Laboratory, a relatively simple process has been developed at that Laboratory which renders recovery of nicotine sulphate from tobacco wastes an economic proposition. Nicotine sulphate is a powerful insecticide. The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research have decided to entrust the commercial development of the process for the South and West Zones, respectively, to two firms.

PREMIUM INCOME

*1415. **Th. Jugal Kishore Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large amount of premium income from fire and marine insurance business passes to foreign insurers; and

(b) if so, the steps that Government propose to take to stop the drain of Indian insurance premium income from India?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) and (b). Though it is true that a considerable amount of premium income goes to foreign insurers, the actual net outflow which may be characterised as drain is of a much smaller order, since, against the premium given out, there are premiums received by way of re-insurance from abroad and foreign business of Indian insurers. The matter is being examined by the Executive Committee of the General Insurance Council and the remedial action to be taken can be considered only after the results of their enquiry are known.

STATISTICS

*1418. **Shri Vishwanatha Reddy:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to formulate all statistics in future with 1946 as the base year and not 1939; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) No, Sir, the Government have not decided to formulate all statistics in future with 1946 as the base year. The question of shifting the base of economic indices from pre-war to post-war year or years and of increasing the coverage and quality of the indices is under examination.

(b) The reasons for considering a change in the base periods of economic indices are:

(i) changes in the economy of the country during the last ten or fifteen years; and

(ii) the need to determine more precisely economic trends after the commencement of the First Five Year Plan.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION IN HYDERABAD

*1423. **Shri H. G. Vaishnav:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any team of Technical experts was sent to Hyderabad to examine the facilities at the Osmania University Engineering College and the Government Technical College at Hyderabad;

(b) if so, whether the said team made any recommendations; and

(c) the amount of financial aid given by the Centre to that State for the expansion of the Technical education?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes. A Visiting Committee of experts was deputed by the Southern Regional Committee of the All India Council for Technical Education.

(b) The Visting Committee recommended grants by the Central and the State Governments for development of facilities at two institutions.

(c) A sum of Rs. 60,000/- has been given as the first instalment of non-recurring grant for the development

of the Government Technical College, Hyderabad.

### करारोपण जांच आयोग

*१४२७. **श्री चांडक** : क्या वित्त मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) क्या करारोपण जांच आयोग ने कोई अन्तरिम प्रतिवेदन दिया है,

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस में क्या सिफारिशें की गई हैं, और

(ग) क्या उस प्रतिवेदन की प्रति पटल पर रखी जायगी ?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah)**: (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

### Linguistic Affairs

*1428. **Shri Buchhikotaiah**: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact, that the Government of India have decided to convene a conference of the Chief Ministers of the South Indian States to discuss the Linguistic affairs;

(b) if so, when the conference will be convened; and

(c) the agenda of the conference?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar)**: (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

### The Indian Civil Administrative (Central) Cadre Scheme

*1436. **Shri Sanganna**: Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any decision to abandon the scheme for the formation of the Indian Civil Administrative (Central) Cadre has been taken by Government;

(b) whether the tenure system as decided upon in the Conference of Chief Secretaries held in April, 1954 at New Delhi will be introduced; and

(c) if so, from what date?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju)**: (a) The Scheme is being reconsidered.

(b) and (c). The Chief Secretaries' Conference did not take any new decision about the tenure system. Ever since the transfer of power Government have endeavoured to re-introduce the tenure system which broke down during the war. This system has, in fact, been progressively implemented during the last few years. The Chief Secretaries' Conference merely reiterated the decision that deputations from the State Governments should to the extent possible be on a tenure basis and agreed that the State Governments should increase the strength of the Indian Administrative Service Cadres gradually so as to enable officers to be lent to the Centre in larger numbers, thus facilitating the operation of the tenure system. The Conference also recognised that for the needs of specialised departments and in order to maintain continuity of policy, a certain number of officers may have to be continued in the service of the Centre for indefinite period.

### *Ex*-States Forces Officers

*1437. **Shri V. P. Nayar**: Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of officers of the *ex*-States Forces who have been given Commissions in the Indian Army;

(b) the number among them who have been given regular Commission; and

(c) the basis on which the seniority has been assigned to them?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia)**: (a) 536.

(b) 274.

(c) All full pay commissioned service rendered by States Forces Officers under the Government of India since the 3rd September, 1939, plus half the remaining full pay commissioned service in the Indian States Forces are reckoned for the purposes

of seniority. Weightage is also given for the remaining half of the full pay commissioned service in the States Forces on the basis of a point system determined with reference to the officers records, length of service and qualifications.

LANDS, HIRINGS AND DISPOSALS SERVICE

*1438. **Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the probable date when the Lands, Hirings and Disposals Service under the Ministry of Defence which was created during last war temporarily is to be disbanded; and

(b) the present strength of officers in this Service having no recognised technical qualifications?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Though the strength of the Lands, Hirings and Disposals Service has been considerably reduced, it has not yet been possible to disband the Service, as a good deal of work entrusted to this Service has still to be finalised. All efforts are being made to finalise the residual work as expeditiously as possible, so that the Service may be disbanded. A definite commitment, as regards the probable date of disbandment cannot, however, be made at this stage.

(b) One.

ORGANISATION AND STAFF REQUIREMENTS

*1440. **Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 1694 asked on the 9th April, 1954 and state:

(a) the extent to which the recommendations made by the Special Team of officers appointed to conduct an objective review of the organisation and staff requirements of the various Ministries and the offices under them have been accepted and given effect to by Government so far;

(b) the extent of economies effected as a result of these recommendations; and

(c) the probable time within which this team is likely to finish its work?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) and (b). The total savings estimated to accrue from the implementation of the recommendations of the Special Team of officers, appointed to conduct an objective review of the staff requirements of the various Ministries and offices under them, in respect of the Ministries so far covered, come to about Rs. 131 lakhs. Out of this the administrative Ministries have so far accepted economies to the tune of Rs. 54 lakhs and have actually effected economies of the order of Rs. 37 lakhs.

(c) It is difficult to indicate at the present juncture a probable date by which the review of all the Organisations under the Central Government will be completed. The nature and volume of work differ from office to office and the Organisations to be reviewed are also spread over the length and breadth of the country. The Special Team has so far covered seven Ministries and the offices under them, out of the 19 Ministries.

MANIPUR STATE TRANSPORT DEPARTMENT

*1441. **Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a private party from Assam made a contribution of Rs. 2,500 by cheque to the Manipur Officers' Club on the understanding that a site would be allotted to him for putting up a petrol pump in the compound of the Manipur State Transport at Imphal;

(b) whether the site has been given to him; and

(c) if so, the action taken by Government against the officers responsible for this?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) to (c). There is no club called Manipur Officers'

Club at Imphal. As there is no civilian club in the town certain officials of the administration together with certain prominent non-officials of the town of Imphal are trying to organise a club of officials and non-officials to be called the Manipur Club and with this object in view, are collecting subscriptions from officials and non-officials.

2. There was, until recently, only one petrol pump in the town of Imphal. It was far away from the Manipur State Transport. The administration had decided some two years ago to allot a piece of land near the State Transport for a second petrol pump so that the vehicles would not have to go to long distance to fill up petrol. This site had been allotted for the installation of a petrol pump to Messrs. Singh and Company, the agents of Burma Oil Company. It is understood that Messrs. Singh and Company made a donation of Rs. 2,500 to the Manipur Club in July, 1954, after they got the agency of the petrol pump in question. The administration of Manipur has nothing to do with the Manipur Club or the donation of Rs. 2,500. Nor does it appear that there was any deal that this donation was to be made in return for the allotment of the site for the petrol pump.

RELIEF FOR DROUGHT CONDITIONS IN ORISSA

*1442. **Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have promised an amount of one and a half crore rupees to the Government of Orissa for relief work necessitated by the drought conditions in that State;

(b) if so, when this amount would be made available to the State Government; and

(c) whether this amount will be given as loan or grant?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. A ways and means advance of Rs. 1½ crores has been promised to the Government of Orissa of which a sum of Rs. 50 lakhs has already been sanctioned. Further releases out of this amount will be made as and when requests are received from the State Government.

(c) A portion of this advance will be converted into a grant in due course equal to half the expenditure incurred by the State on measures of gratuitous relief including infructuous expenditure on the provision of works instead of direct relief; the balance will be treated as a loan.

STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY BODIES

**792. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred question No. 693 asked on the 16th December, 1952 and state:

(a) the names of statutory and non-statutory bodies of a permanent nature constituted since December, 1952 under the administrative control of the Ministry of Education giving the following information in each case:—

(i) date of constitution,

(ii) the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved,

(iii) provision for audit of their accounts, and

(iv) the method of submission of the report of their activities; and

(b) the names of bodies of a permanent nature that have been dissolved during this period?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 74.]

*Ad-Hoc* COMMITTEES

**793. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred question

No. 693 asked on the 16th December, 1952 and state:

(a) the names of *ad-hoc* committees:—

(i) that were appointed since December, 1952 giving the date of appointment,

(ii) that have finished their work and have submitted their reports during the period giving the dates of submission of their reports, and

(iii) that are still functioning and the time by which they are expected to submit their reports; and

(b) the names of bodies of advisory character that have been dissolved during this period?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 75.]

STATUTORY AND NON-STATUTORY BODIES

**794. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred question No. 753-I asked on the 16th December, 1952 and state:

(a) the names of statutory and non-statutory bodies of permanent nature constituted since December, 1952 under the administrative control of the Ministry of Defence giving the following information in each case:—

(i) date of constitution,

(ii) the recurring and non-recurring expenditure involved,

(iii) provision for audit of their accounts, and

(iv) the method of submission of the report of their activities; and

(b) the names of bodies of a permanent nature that have been dissolved during this period?

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 76.]

(b) No bodies of a permanent nature have been dissolved during this period.

*Ad-Hoc* COMMITTEES

**795. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of Defence be pleased to refer to the answer to unstarred question No. 753-I asked on the 16th December, 1952 and state:

(a) the names of *ad-hoc* committees:—

(i) that were appointed since December, 1952 giving the date of appointment,

(ii) that have finished their work and have submitted their reports during the period giving the dates of submission of their reports,

(iii) that are still functioning and the time by which they are expected to submit their reports; and

(b) the names of bodies of advisory character that have been dissolved during this period?

**The Minister of Defence Organisation (Shri Tyagi):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 77.]

(b) No bodies of an advisory character have been dissolved during this period.

**भूतपूर्व सैनिकों का युद्धोत्तर पुनर्निर्माण कोष**

**७९६. श्री भक्त दर्शन :** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे :

(क) टिहरी-गढ़वाल रियासत के भूतपूर्व सैनिकों के युद्धोत्तर पुनर्निर्माण कोष में कितनी राशि जमा है;

(ख) क्या यह सच है कि यह राशि अभी तक उत्तर प्रदेश के राज्यपाल को नहीं दी गई,

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस में देरी का क्या कारण है ; और

(घ) यह राशि किस तिथि को दी जायगी ?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia)**: (a) (i) Rs. 38,839 as the share of State Forces personnel in the Post War Reconstruction Fund.

(ii) Rs. 3,26,700 as the share of Indian Army personnel from the State.

(b) The amount at (i) above was paid to the Uttar Pradesh Post War Reconstruction Fund Trust Committee in 1950. The amount at (ii) was pooled with the undisbursed balances lying with the Central Government on behalf of Parts B and C States and constituted into a Central Post War Resettlement Fund under the Ministry of Defence. The money will be utilised for the benefit of Indian Army personnel coming from Tehri-Garhwal.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

SCHEDULED CASTES SCHOLARSHIPS (MADHYA PRADESH)

**797. Shri N. A. Borkar**: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received by the Central Scholarships Board for Post-Matric and Post-Graduate Scholarships from the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students of Madhya Pradesh for the year 1954-55;

(b) whether it is a fact that these stipends have not so far been paid; and

(c) if so, the reasons for the delay in paying the stipends?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad)**: (a) 853.

(b) Some payments have been made.

(c) There has been no delay. About 34,000 applications under the Scheme have been received upto the 31st August, 1954. Selections and payments are being made expeditiously.

STIPENDS FOR SCHEDULED CASTES

**798. Shri N. A. Borkar**: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students of Madhya Pradesh who did not get the second instalment of their stipends for the year 1953-54; and

(b) the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad)**: (a) Nine.

(b) (i) Unsatisfactory progress for the first half of academic year 1953-54; and

(ii) failure to pass or appear in the annual examination.

FREE EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**799. Shri H. N. Mukerjee**: Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have formulated any scheme for free education in Public Schools for needy students; and

(b) if so, the details of the scheme?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad)**: (a) and (b). Attention of the hon. Member is drawn to the Press Notes issued on September 25th, 1953, January 1st, 1954, and July 17th, 1954. A copy of the Note for Candidates, which gives full information about the scheme as at present in operation is also placed on the Table of the House. [Placed in Library. *See* No. S-401/54.]

INDUSTRIAL CONCERNS

**800. Shri A. K. Gopalan**: Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state

the names of the industrial concerns set up in India (i) as joint enterprises of the Government of India and foreign capital and (ii) other partnership concerns involving Indians as well as foreign capital, since the 15th August, 1947?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (i) (a) Indian Telephone Industries Ltd., Bangalore.

(b) Hindustan Machine Tools Ltd., Bangalore.

(c) Hindustan Steel Ltd., Delhi.

(d) M/S. Indian Explosives Ltd., Calcutta.

(ii) Government have no information.

### हिन्दी में सांस्कृतिक गवेषणा

**८०१. सेठ गोविन्द दास :** क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि १९५३-५४ में केन्द्रीय सरकार ने १०० रुपये प्रति मास या उस से अधिक की जो छात्रवृत्तियां दीं उनमें से हिन्दी में सांस्कृतिक गवेषणा के लिये कितनी छात्रवृत्तियां दी गई ?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** If the reference is to Government of India Research Scholarships in Humanities, the hon. Member's attention is drawn to answer to Starred Question No. 836 on the 10th March, 1954.

### Seizure of Gold

**802. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the total values of gold, diamonds, rubies and jewellery seized at air and sea ports by Customs authorities since the beginning of the current financial year?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** The total value of gold, precious stones including diamonds, rubies, and jewellery seized at Air and Sea Ports by Customs authorities from 1st April, 1954, to 15th July, 1954, is Rs. 18,55,165, Rs. 1,03,303 and Rs. 1,74,073, respectively.

### Oil Wells

**803. Shri K. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of wells that have already been drilled in the Brahmaputra Valley to produce oil;

(b) how many wells are proposed to be drilled this year; and

(c) the approximate cost in drilling the first and the second well?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) It is reported that in the Nahorkatiya area in the Brahmaputra Valley, three wells have so far been drilled.

(b) The Assam Oil Company hopes to complete two more wells before the end of this year.

(c) The Government of Assam report that separate figures regarding the cost of drilling individual wells are not available. A sum of approximately rupees one and a half crores was spent by the Assam Oil Company upto the end of June, 1954, on drilling wells and work incidental thereto.

### Teaching of Hindi

**804.** { **Shri S. K. Razmi:** / **Shri D. C. Sharma:**

Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any scheme under the Five Year Plan for giving assistance to States for the teaching of Hindi; and

(b) if so, the amount allotted to various States during 1953-54 and 1954-55?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes, Sir. There is a scheme for promotion of Hindi, particularly in the non-Hindi speaking areas.

(b) There has been no allotment of funds State-wise under the Plan, but a lump-sum provision is made for all the State Governments for the pur-

pose of giving them grants on the basis of the schemes submitted by them. No grants were given during the year 1953-54. During 1954-55 the following grants have been sanctioned so far:—

| S. No. | Name of the State | Amount sanctioned |
|---|---|---|
| | | Rs. |
| 1. | Assam | 13,992 |
| 2. | Bihar | 47,520 |
| 3. | Bombay | 56,562 |
| 4. | Coorg | 2,244 |
| 5. | Orissa | 17,049 |
| 6. | Saurashtra | 21,450 |
| 7. | Travancore-Cochin | 88,440 |
| 8. | West Bengal | 14,600 |
| | Total | 2,61,857 |

CULTURAL RELATIONS

**805. Ch. Raghubir Singh:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have taken steps to establish cultural relations between India and other countries by sending abroad Indian dancers and musicians;

(b) if so, to which countries these dancers and musicians were sent during 1953-54 and 1954-55; and

(c) the approximate expenditure incurred on their tours during the said period?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes, Sir. Sending dancers and musicians is one such step.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 78].

SMUGGLED GOLD

**806. Sardar A. S. Saigal:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of gold confiscated from 1951 to the 30th June, 1954;

(b) the arrangements Government have made to sell this confiscated gold; and

(c) whether there has been any decrease in the smuggling of gold within the last six months?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** (a) The quantity of smuggled gold confiscated in 1951, 1952, 1953 and the first half of the year 1954 was 65,118, 54,773, 19,986, and 51,054 tolas, respectively.

(b) Confiscated gold is transferred to the Government of India mints at Bombay and Calcutta for custody. It is not proposed at present to sell the gold in the market. No decision regarding the use to which the confiscated gold is to be put, has yet been taken.

(c) This is a matter of opinion. Government believes that there has been some decrease in the smuggling of gold.

RURAL BANKING ENQUIRY COMMITTEE

**807. Shri S. C. Samanta:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) how many branches the Imperial Bank of India has opened in Taluk or tehsil towns since 1953 and at what places; and

(b) whether a Warehousing Development Board has been established as recommended by the Rural Banking Enquiry Committee?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** (a) Names of places where the Imperial Bank of India has opened its branches since

1st July, 1951, are given below with the date of opening:—

| State in which the branch has been opened | Name of the place | | Date of opening |
|---|---|---|---|
| | District treasury centre | Sub-treasurey centre | |
| Andhra | .. | Bapatla | 18-8-52 |
| Assam | Tezpur | .. | 6-4-53 |
| Bihar | .. | Bettiah | 1-7-53 |
| | Chaibassa | .. | 17-11-52 |
| | Purulia | .. | 12-1-54 |
| Bombay | .. | Amalner | 1-10-53 |
| | Baroda | .. | 29-3-54 |
| | .. | Bhusawal | 5-11-52 |
| | Bijapur | .. | 16-8-54 |
| | Dharwar | .. | 15-6-53 |
| | .. | Dohad | 27-10-52 |
| | .. | Gadag | 3-3-52 |
| | Kolhapur | .. | 28-4-52 |
| | .. | Pachera | 25-5-53 |
| | Palanpur | .. | 15-6-54 |
| Madhya Pradesh | .. | Achalpur | 4-5-53 |
| | Chanda | .. | 6-4-53 |
| | .. | Gondia | 2-3-53 |
| | .. | Harda | 12-1-53 |
| | .. | Rajnandgaon | 18-2-52 |
| | .. | Soani | 4-2-54 |
| | .. | Wun | 12-10-53 |
| Orissa | Balasore | .. | 17-8-53 |
| | Sambalpur | .. | 1-4-53 |
| Punjab | Gurdaspur | .. | 27-10-52 |
| | Hoshiarpur | .. | 1-5-52 |
| | Karnal | .. | 2-1-53 |
| | .. | Pathankot | 11-11-52 |
| | Rohtak | .. | 29-10-52 |
| Uttar Pradesh | Azamgarh | .. | 2-1-53 |
| | Bahraich | .. | 1-2-52 |
| | Ballia | .. | 11-11-52 |
| | Basti | .. | 11-11-52 |
| | Bijnor | .. | 1-6-54 |
| | Budaun | .. | 2-12-52 |
| | Gonda | .. | 11-11-52 |
| | Lakhimpur Kheri | .. | 2-12-52 |
| | Mainpuri | .. | 11-11-52 |
| | Mirzapur | .. | 1-7-53 |
| | Pilibhit | .. | 2-3-53 |
| | Roorkee | .. | 1-12-53 |
| | Shahjahanpur | .. | 11-11-52 |
| West Bengal | Berhampore | | 5-1-53 |
| | Chinsurah | | 11-12-52 |
| | Krishnagar | | 2-12-52 |
| Kutch | Bhuj | | 5-5-53 |
| Vindhya Pradesh | Rewa | .. | 21-6-54 |
| | Satna | .. | 24-6-54 |

(b) No, Sir. The views of the State Governments regarding the establishment of Warehousing Development Board have been obtained by the Reserve Bank of India and the matter is being further examined by the latter. The question of warehousing is also engaging the attention of the All-India Rural Credit Survey in the context of their enquiry into rural credit conditions.

BORDER TRAFFIC IN ARMS

**808. Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the number of cases of illicit traffic in arms between India and Nepal so far during 1954-55?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** The information has been called for from the Governments of the States concerned and will be laid on the Table of the House in due course.

CORRUPTION

**809. Shri Ramananda Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of cases of corruption against Government officers which have been reported to the Special Police Establishment from the 1st April, 1953 to the 30th June, 1954 (State-wise); and

(b) the procedure adopted in dealing with such cases of corruption and approximate time taken in completing enquiry against such officers?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 79].

(b) If the investigation of the case shows that sufficient evidence is forthcoming for prosecuting an accused person, sanction is obtained for such prosecution from the authority competent to remove the accused person from service. The case is then put into court. It is not possible to state the approximate time taken in completing an enquiry against an accused official as this depends on the nature and magnitude of the particular case.

If, in any case, the evidence is insufficient to obtain a conviction in a court of law but neverthless is sufficient to show that the official is guilty of misconduct, the matter is referred to the administrative Ministry concerned for taking departmental action against the official.

GEOPHYSICIST IN GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

**810. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the post of Geophysicist in the Geological Survey has recently been up-graded;

(b) the reasons for the same; and

(c) the present scale of pay of the Chief Geophysicist?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) and (b). No, Sir.

(c) Rs. 1300-60-1600.

SMUGGLING OF GOLD DUST

**811. Shri Bishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state;

(a) whether it is a fact that about 11,200 ounces of gold dust were smuggled from North Burma to India *via* Imphal as has been reported by a News Agency from Rangoon;

(b) if so, the action that has been taken by the Central Land Customs Department on the Indo-Burma border at the time of smuggling; and

(c) the preventive measures that the Government of India have taken to check such smuggling on the border?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** (a) The Government of India are not aware of any smuggling incident during 1954.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) A statement showing some of the steps taken to prevent smuggling through the land frontiers is placed on the Table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 80].

OPIUM FACTORY AT NEEMUCH

**812. Shri U. M. Trivedi:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 42 class III and class IV employees in the opium factory at Neemuch under the Narcotics Commission have all been temporary hands for the last eighteen years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether Government have made any arrangements for their future on retirement?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C .Guha):** (a) A statement showing the Class III and Class IV staff of the factory is enclosed. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 81]. It will be seen therefrom that there are in all 3 temporary Class III employees and 57 temporary Class IV employees, out of whom there are only 7 Class IV temporary employees who have put in more than 18 years service.

(b) Till 31st March, 1950, the employees at the Neemuch Opium Factory were being paid out of the funds provided under Joint Opium Officer's Scheme. Under this Scheme. the States of Madhya Bharat and Rajasthan were required to contribute a specified amount for the maintenance of the Joint Opium Officer and his staff. The scheme was sanctioned on a year to year basis and the question of confirming the employees did not, therefore, arise. The Factory and its staff have been taken over by the Government of India from 1st April, 1950. The seven employees who have put in more than 18 years' service but are still temporary were among the staff of the factory who were in the past years paid from the contingencies, i.e. they were not on the regular establishment. After the taking over of the factory by the Government of India, the question of bringing them on to the regular establishment was considered and they have now been absorbed in the regular establishment with effect from 1st July, 1954. The question of their confirmation is also being considered.

(c) Presumably the hon. Member wants to know whether they will get any pension or gratuity after retirement. They will certainly get the gratuity and the pension admissible under the rules to the Government servants on retirement.

CANTEEN STORES DEPARTMENT

**813. Shri Gidwani:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Canteen Stores Department (India) is a Government undertaking;

(b) if so, whether the employees of this Department are treated as Government Servants;

(c) whether the Canteen Stores Department (India) Employees' Union have made any representations to Government regarding their demands; and

(d) if so, what are those demands, and whether Government have considered them?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) No public funds are invested in the Canteen Stores Department. It functions as an autonomous commercial organisation with funds of its own.

(b) No.

(c) Yes.

(d) A list of the demands is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 82]. Some of the demands have been considered while a few are under consideration.

ORDNANCE OFFICERS (CIVILIANS)

**814. Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the present strength of the Ordnance Officers (Civilians) in the Army Ordnance Corps;

(b) the categories in which these officers have been classified for the purpose of retrenchment or retention and the basis therefor;

(c) whether any post-war strength of these officers has been fixed and if so, what it is;

(d) whether the officers surplus to the post-war strength will be retrenched during the current year; and

(e) whether any facilities are given to the retrenched officers to secure new jobs?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) 361.

(b) A Departmental Promotion Committee has graded direct recruits to

the post of Ordnance Officers (Civilians) as follows:—

(a) Outstanding.

(b) Above average.

(c) Average.

(d) Below average.

Departmental candidates have been classified as—

(a) Fit for permanent retention in the grade.

(b) The rest.

(c) Yes, 110.

(d) No.

(e) Yes. A detailed note is placed on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 83].

STUDENT-*cum*-YOUTH CAMPS

**815. Shri T. Subrahmanyam:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of student-*cum*-youth camps under local Development Works, that were started between 1st January and the 30th June, 1954;

(b) the names of the places where they were started;

(c) the total expenditure incurred on them; and

(d) the nature of work carried out by these camps?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) According to available information, no student-*cum*-youth camps were subsidised by the Centre under Local Development works.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

**रिजर्व बैंक का साप्ताहिक विवरण**

८१६. **श्री एम० एल० द्विवेदी :** क्या वित्त मंत्री रिजर्व बैंक के ९ जुलाई १९५४ को समाप्त होने वाले सप्ताह के साप्ताहिक विवरण के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) जारी किये गये नोटों के मूल्य में २२० करोड़ रुपये की वृद्धि होने के क्या कारण हैं ,

(ख) १९४८-४९ और अगस्त १९५४ के बीच जारी किये गये नोटों में वृद्धि होने के क्या कारण हैं , और

(ग) इस का वस्तुओं के क्रय तथा विक्रय मूल्य पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ा है ?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) According to the weekly statement issued by the Reserve Bank of India for the week ending the 9th July, 1954, notes in circulation (*i.e.*, total notes issued minus notes held in the Bank Department of the Reserve Bank) increased during the week by Rs. 220 lakhs, and not by Rs. 220 crores.

This small increase does not call for any special explanation.

(b) Between 1948 and August, 1954 (*i.e.*, between the last Friday of March, 1948, and the last Friday of August, 1954), notes in circulation actually declined from Rs. 1,304 crores to Rs. 1,149 crores.

(c) Since there was no increase in the notes in circulation between 1948-49 and August, 1954, the question of the effects thereof does not arise.

POLYTECHNIC SCHOOLS IN INDIA

**817. Shrimati Sushama Sen:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Polytechnic schools in India in 1953-54;

(b) the number of students who applied for admission during this period in such schools as were under Government control; and

(c) the number of those who were admitted?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) 48 on 31st March, 1953.

(b) and (c). The information is not available.

FOREIGN AID TO INDIA

**818. Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of Finance be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 20 million dollars foreign aid offered by U.S.A. to India to purchase 100 steam locomotives and 5,000 railway wagons would be a grant or a loan;

(b) whether it is a fact that the lowest tenders have not been accepted for part of the contract;

(c) if so, who will bear the burden of the additional cost on account of the increased price in case it would be a loan; and

(d) the estimated amount of this additional cost?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) Grant.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) In view of answer to (a) above, the question does not arise; it may be stated, however, that the additional cost will be fully met by an additional grant from the U.S.A.

(d) Approximately nine to ten million Dollars.

GRANTS TO POETS AND WRITERS

**819. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Orissa have recommended the cases of Oriya poets and writers for sanction of grants during the year 1954-55;

(b) if so, their names; and

(c) the decision taken by Government in the matter?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

CHILDREN'S LITERATURE

**820. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Orissa have been asked by the Government of India to suggest the names of books in Oriya suitable for children's literature:

(b) if so, the suggestions that have been received by Government in this connection; and

(c) whether the suggestions have been approved by Government?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes.

(b) Some books have been received from the State Government which are being examined.

(c) Not so far.

"GANDHI MAHAPURAN"

**821. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India propose to obtain an Oriya edition of the "Gandhi Mahapuran", which has been published in Orissa, for use in the National Library, Calcutta; and

(b) if so, what is the price of the book?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes.

(b) Not known.

CHILD GUIDANCE CENTRE

**822. Shri Dholakia:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) the kind of guidance given in the Child Guidance Centre, opened in the Central Institute of Education, Delhi;

(b) the number of persons benefited from this Centre during the year 1953-54;

(c) the total number of 'Child Guidance Centres' and the names of the places where they are located in India; and

(d) whether Government will place on the Table of the House 'reports' of the work done at these Centres?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) The cases referred to the centre are mostly cases of mentally retarded children. Beyond testing their level of intelligence, not much has been done to help them so far. A special class or school is required for that purpose which the Institute does not at present possess.

Other cases are of emotionally disturbed children showing various symptoms such as aggression, recessiveness or shyness, stubbornness or disobedience, bed-wetting or neurosis, restlessness or lack of concentration, educational backwardness and anti-social behaviour of various types, like stealing, assault and pick-pocketing. In these cases guidance has generally taken the form of necessary psychological instructions to the parents or guardians. The Institute is also trying to follow-up the cases referred to it, although it has not had any notable success in the matter so far.

(b) During the year 1953-54, thirty cases received guidance at the centre, the details of which are: Aggression—3, Neurosis—3, Lack of concentration or restlessness—2, Mentally retarded, the backward or the dull—18, Recessive or Shy—2, Stubborn or disobedient—2.

Besides these the reader in Psychology at the Institute studied 140 delinquent children in the District Jail and the Children's Home, Delhi, at the invitation of the authorities there.

(c) and (d). The information asked for is the concern of State Governments.

PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOLS

**823. Shri Dholakia:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of pre-Primary Schools working in each State of India during the period from the 1st April, 1953 to the 31st March, 1954;

(b) the number of schools maintained by Government and by private organizations respectively;

(c) the number of such private schools in each State which are receiving grants-in-aid from Government;

(d) the number of boys and girls enrolled in these schools during the period mentioned in part (a) above; and

(e) the expenditure incurred by Government by way of maintenance *etc.*, of these schools during the same period?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) to (c). The information regarding the year 1953-54 is not yet available. It may further be pointed out that such information when received from the State Governments is published in the Annual Reports and copies of these Reports are available in the Library.

FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETIES

**824. Shri Rishang Keishing:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the Foreign Missionary Societies allowed to work in Manipur uptil now;

(b) whether Government have totally banned the entry of Foreign Missionaries into Manipur State; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) According to information available with Government, two Foreign Missionary Societies *viz.* the North-East Indian General Mission and the American Baptist Foreign Mission are working in Manipur.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

NON-INDIAN EMPLOYEES

**825. Diwan Raghavendra Rao:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons of non-Indian origin employed in various

capacities under the Ministry at present; and

(b) the nature of their employment?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) and (b). A statement giving the required information is enclosed. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 84].

PROFIT INDEX

**826. Shri K. P. Tripathi:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state the profit index compiled by Government for the years 1952, 1953, 1954 (first half) in respect of the following industries in India:—

(i) Cotton textile,

(ii) Jute,

(iii) Cement,

(iv) Paper,

(v) Steel and Iron,

(vi) Chemicals,

(vii) Engineering,

(viii) Tea,

(ix) Coffee,

(x) Rubber,

(xi) Sugar,

(xii) Managing agency houses,

(xiii) Petroleum,

(xiv) Banks, and

(xv) Insurance Companies?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** A statement containing the available information in respect of seven industries is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 85]. Profit indices in respect of the other industries are not compiled at present.

TEACHING GERMAN LANGUAGE TO FOREIGNERS

**827. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of Education be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have sent any students to Vienna to undergo a course from the 15th July to the 30th September, 1954, held by the International Summer School for teaching German language;

(b) if so, the number and names of these students; and

(c) who will bear their expenses?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

CANTEEN STORES DEPARTMENT

**828. Shri Kirolikar:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the receipts and expenditure of Canteen Stores Department, India are subject to Government audit;

(b) the amount of capital that has been invested in the said department by Government; and

(c) the number of employees working in this Department?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Yes. The receipts and expenditure of the Canteen Stores Department (India) are subject to the local Test Audit by the Director of Audit, Defence Services. They are subject to detailed audit by a firm of Chartered Accountants appointed by the Board of Control, Canteen Services.

(b) Nil.

(c) 869 as per details below:—

| | |
|---|---|
| Class III and above ... | 415 |
| Class IV on monthly rate ... | 377 |
| Class IV on daily rate ... | 77. |

INCOME-TAX ASSESSMENT

**829. Shri K. C. Sodhia:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of individual assessees of income-tax having a salary income above Rs. 25,000 during 1953-54;

(b) the number among them who were Government employees; and

(c) the total collections of tax from these during the same year?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) 7,716.

(b) and (c). This information is not available from the Income-tax Revenue Statistics.

PENSION CLAIMS

**830. Shri Dholakia:** Will the Minister of States be pleased to state the number of Kutch Government servants, retired or made to retire during the period 1948-49, 1949-50, 1950-51 and 1951-52, whose pensions claims have not been settled so far?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** The information is being collected from the Government of Kutch and will be placed on the Table of the Sabha, when received.

**छावनी बोर्ड, पचमढ़ी**

८२१. **श्री चांडक :** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या पचमढ़ी (मध्य प्रदेश) के नागरिकों ने वहां के छावनी बोर्ड के विरुद्ध कोई शिकायतें या आवेदन भेजे हैं ,

(ख) यदि हां, तो क्या सरकार ने उन की जांच की हैं , और

(ग) इस सम्बन्ध में अब तक क्या कार्यवाही की गई हैं या करने का विचार हैं ?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Does not arise.

**खुर्जा छावनी**

८२२. **श्री चांडक :** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) खुर्जा (जिला बुलन्दशहर) छावनी क्षेत्र में कितने एकड़ भूमि हैं ,

(ख) कितने एकड़ भूमि पर कृषि की जाती हैं ,

(ग) खेती वाली भूमि से सरकार को क्या आय होती हैं ।

(घ) क्या सरकार इस भूमि पर खेती करती हैं या इसे पट्टे पर दे दिया गया हैं , और

(ङ) क्या सरकार का विचार इस भूमि को बेचने का हैं ?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) There is no Cantonment at Khurja in Bulandshahr District. Presumably, the words "Cantonment area" mean the Camping Ground at Khurja. The area of this Camping Ground is 52·03 acres.

(b) 47·50 acres. The remaining area of 4·53 acres has been leased out to the J.A.S. Higher Secondary School authorities at Khurja for use as a play-ground on a rental of Rs. 50/- p.a.

(c) Rs. 550/- per annum.

(d) The land has been leased out.

(e) Yes.

**राजस्थान में विकास कार्य**

८२३. **श्री चांडक :** क्या राज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या राजस्थान में नहरों, रेलवे लाइनों और अन्य निर्माण कार्यों को दूसरी पंच वर्षीय योजना में सम्मिलित करने के कोई सुझाव प्राप्त हुए हैं , और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उन का ब्योरा क्या हैं ?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) The State Government have proposed certain irrigation schemes for the consideration of the Planning Commission. Other schemes have not been received so far, but are under consideration by the State Government.

(b) It is premature to publish particulars of the irrigation schemes as they will have to be technically scrutinised and considered further, along with other proposals which may be put forward by the State Government.

### मध्यप्रदेश में गवेषणा संस्था

८२४. **श्री चांडक :** क्या प्राकृतिक संसाधन तथा वैज्ञानिक गवेषणा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या मध्य प्रदेश सरकार ने केन्द्रीय सरकार से प्रार्थना की है कि एक गवेषणा संस्था मध्य प्रदेश में खोली जाय ,

(ख) क्या केन्द्रीय सरकार ने इस प्रार्थना पर विचार किया है , और

(ग) यदि हां, तो इस सम्बन्ध में क्या निर्णय किया गया है ?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) to (c). The Madhya Pradesh Government has not sent any request to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Scientific Research on the subject. Information from other sources is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

### Bank Award

**835. Mulla Abdullabhai:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have worked out the figures regarding the additional expenditure that the Banks in India would have to incur in case the recent Bank Award is given effect to; and

(b) if so the estimated amount of additional expenditure?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** (a) As mentioned in the Government Resolution issued with the Labour Ministry's No. LR100(56)/54, dated the 17th September, 1954, Government have collected information in respect of a certain number of banking companies of various classes selected as a representative sample for the purpose. Government have instituted a fact-finding enquiry under Justice Shri Rajadhyaksha for further investigation of this matter. One of the terms of reference of this enquiry is to ascertain the additional burden on all individual banks that would have been caused by the decision of the Appellate Tribunal.

(b) Does not arise.

### Balance of Trade and Balance of Payment

**836. Mulla Abdullabhai:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of the countries with which the Balance of Payment was favourable to India in 1953-54; and

(b) the amount of the invisible earnings of India from (i) shipping and (ii) insurance?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) Full information is not available, but according to the information at present available the position was that India had a favourable balance of payments on current account with the following countries:—

(i) Ceylon.

(ii) U.S.A.

(iii) Canada.

(b) During 1953-54, India's invisible net earnings from (i) transportation including shipping amounted to Rs. 21.1 crores; and (ii) from insurance, Rs. 1.6 crores.

### Section 144 in Part 'C' States

**837. Mulla Abdullabhai:** Will the Minister of **States** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Part 'C' States where Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code was promulgated during (i) 1953-54 and (ii) 1954-55 so far; and

(b) the duration of the order in each case in each of the States where it was enforced?

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** (a) and (b). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

GEOLOGICAL TRIGONOMETRY STONES

**838. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Geological Trigonometry Stones in Orissa are being maintained by the Central Government or the Government of Orissa or by both;

(b) whether any survey has been made of the places where these Stones have been fixed within the last two or three years in order to ensure their correct location; and

(c) in case the survey stones are maintained by the State Government, the extent to which the expenditure thereon is reimbursed by the Government of India?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) and (c). The Trigonometrical Stones are looked after by the State Government through their District Officers. Expenditure on repairs to the stones is, however, met by the Central Government.

(b) No, Sir.

SUPERANNUATED STAFF IN M. E. S.

**839. { Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Shri N. B. Chowdhury:**

Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any rule whereby a Government servant under Ministerial Establishments having reached the superannuation can ordinarily be retained in service upto the age of sixty provided he continues to be efficient and medically fit;

(b) if so, the number of such cases of staff retained in service at present in the M.E.S. in Eastern and Southern Commands; and

(c) whether there is any special consideration shown in this matter to the Central Government servants in Defence who are displaced persons from Pakistan?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) Yes. But this rule does not apply to Ministerial officers who entered Government service on or after 31st April, 1938, or who being in Government service on 31st March, 1938, did not hold lien or a suspended lien on a permanent post on that date.

(b) Eastern Command: 22
Southern Command: 6

(c) The Ministry of Home Affairs have issued instructions advising Ministries to consider sympathetically the advisability of retiring and re-employing the Displaced Government servants till their pensions (including anticipatory pensions) are actually sanctioned in cases where pensions are not likely to be actually sanctioned immediately on superannuation. These instructions are applicable to all Displaced Government servants engaged in Central Government Establishments and are not peculiar to the Central Government servants in Defence alone.

HARIJANS

**841. Shri Ram Dhani Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed the State Governments to watch the progress of Harijans, so as to assure equal progress of all the sub-castes of Harijans; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** (a) and (b). No such direction is called for, because, in the opinion of this Government, State Governments are already alive to the necessity of ameliorating the conditions of all the weaker sections of the society including Scheduled Castes with all sub-castes.

HARIJANS IN BIHAR

**842. Shri Ram Dhani Das:** Will the Minister of **Home Affairs** be pleased to state the amount of money given to the State of Bihar since 1950 year-wise to ameliorate the conditions of Harijans?

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** No grants are given to State Governments for the amelioration of the conditions of Harijans. Grants are being given to State Governments and certain all-India Organisations of repute for the removal of untouchability since 1953-54. During this year a sum of Rs. 1,30,000 was given to Bihar for this purpose. For the current financial year a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 has already been paid and another instalment of an equal amount will be paid before the close of the financial year on the receipt of full details regarding the actual expenditure etc. incurred by the State Government on these schemes including that met from their own funds.

LOAN TO ORISSA

**843. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of India have sanctioned any loan to the Government of Orissa, for the improvement of Cuttack City under the Master Plan;

(b) if so, the amount of loan sanctioned; and

(c) the mode in which the loan is repayable?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) No. Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

SMUGGLED GOODS

**844. Shri M. Islamuddin:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to refer to the reply to starred question No. 2194 asked on the 3rd May, 1954 and state:

(a) the measures that are being taken by Government to combat smuggling on the borders of Purnea (Bihar);

(b) the number of smugglers convicted in 1952 and 1953;

(c) how many of the convicts were Indians and how many were Pakistanis;

(d) whether any of the convicts held passports of either countries; and

(e) if so, their number?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** (a) The following measures are being adopted to prevent smuggling on the Purnea border:—

(i) Extensive patrolling is regularly undertaken by the Land Customs and Preventive Staff posted on the Indo-Pakistan border.

(ii) One land-rover has been in use for patrolling the border for the last three years.

(iii) The preventive arrangements are being reinforced by making another vehicle and an extra Preventive party available to the Superintendent of Central Excise, Kishanganj, who controls the major portion of the Indo-Pakistan border adjoining Purnea (Bihar).

(b) No smuggler was convicted during this period.

(c) to (e). Do not arise.

EARTHQUAKES IN NORTH EAST INDIA

**845. Shri L. N. Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an eminent Geologist of West Bengal has made a forecast that North East India will experience a number of earthquakes during the next two hundred years at an interval of eight years; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to explore the possibilities of preventing such occurrences?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Newspapers reports indicate that Prof. S. K. Banerji of the College of Engineering and Technology, Jadavpur, has made a statement that, based on the past frequency of earthquakes, 25

earthquakes in the next 200 years may be expected to occur.

(b) No methods are known by which occurrences of earthquakes can be prevented.

GOODWILL AND CULTURAL MISSIONS

**846. Shri Ibrahim:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Government sponsored goodwill and cultural missions sent abroad during the year 1953-54;

(b) the amount of expenditure incurred by Government in each case;

(c) the names of the countries visited by them; and

(d) what criteria are followed for sending these cultural and goodwill missions abroad as also in regard to the selection of their personnel?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) to (d). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

LANDS, HIRINGS AND DISPOSALS SERVICE

**847. Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether an *ad-hoc* Committee has been appointed to settle the large number of unsettled claims outstanding with the Lands, Hirings and Disposals Service, Calcutta, in respect of properties acquired, requisitioned and hired by the Defence Authorities during the last War;

(b) the composition of the above *ad-hoc* Committee;

(c) the number of cases disposed of till now; and

(d) the qualifications of the members of the *ad-hoc* Committee, especially of those who settle the cases of a technical nature involving payments of large sums of money?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) Yes.

(b) The composition of the *ad hoc* Committee is as under:—

(i) A representative of the Ministry of Defence of the rank of Deputy Secretary.

(ii) A representative of the Ministry of Finance (Defence) not lower in rank than an Under Secretary.

(iii) The Director, Lands Hirings and Disposals Service or his representative.

(c) 93.

(d) The Committee is composed of members who have adequate experience in dealing with such matters. They are assisted by technically qualified officers of the Lands; Hirings and Disposals Service.

SCHEDULED CASTES SCHOLARSHIPS

**848. Shri B. N. Kureel:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the number of students whose scholarships were either cancelled or withheld by the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes Scholarships Board during the years 1952-53 and 1953-54 as a result of the adverse reports against them from the Heads of Institutions and the amount thus saved during the above period?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** The second half-yearly instalment of seventy students was discontinued during the years 1952-53 and 1953-54 as they had shown unsatisfactory progress in studies during the first half of the academic year and also failed or did not appear in the annual examination. The money thus saved amounted to Rs. 18,175 which was utilized in awarding scholarships to other candidates belonging to these classes.

SURPLUS MILITARY LANDS

**849. Shri G. P. Sinha:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of surplus military camps, lands, buildings hired or requisitioned and Air fields held on

charge by the Defence Ministry as on the 31st August, 1954;

(b) the total amount of loss incurred by Government in respect of above surplus camps etc., on account of rentals and other recurring expenses; and

(c) the total acreage of land held on charge in each State separately by the Defence Ministry as on the 31st August, 1954, which was hired, requisitioned or acquired during the last war and was declared surplus to Defence Department requirements?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Sardar Majithia):** (a) 120. Out of these, 42 are in various stages of disposal, the remaining 78 being in the temporary occupation of other Ministries or State Governments or the Services concerned.

(b) There is no loss. The total annual rental paid is Rs. 10,60,695. Out of this, Rs. 9,01,899 is being recovered from other Ministries and State Governments who are in occupation of some of the properties. Properties under disposal account for an annual rental liability of Rs. 1,32,841. The rest of the total annual rental (*i.e.* Rs. 25,955), constitutes the annual rental in respect of properties which are in the occupation of the Services.

(c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha. [*See* Appendix VIII, annexure No. 86].

JYOTISAR

**850. Shri M. D. Joshi:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have included Jyotisar in Kurukshetra among the Archaeological monuments to be preserved and maintained by Government;

(b) if so, the steps taken for its preservation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) No.

(b) **Does not arise.**

(c) The monument is not very ancient and is not considered to be of national importance.

HINDUSTAN AIRCRAFT, LTD., BANGALORE

**851. Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Defence** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a high officer of the Department of Radio and Instruments of the Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., Bangalore, was arrested recently on charges of theft;

(b) if so, whether the said officer has been suspended; and

(c) whether proper investigation is being made in the matter?

**The Deputy Minister of Defence (Shri Satish Chandra):** (a) A Chief Supervisor of the factory was arrested and immediately released on bail.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The case is pending in a criminal court. As the matter is *sub judice*, it would not be appropriate to give further information.

नेपाल के उम्मीदवारों के लिए स्थान सुरक्षित करना

८५२. ठाकुर भुगल किशोर सिंह : क्या शिक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत सरकार की सिफारिश पर बिहार सरकार ने मुजफ्फरपुर इंजीनियरिंग कालेज के संक्षिप्त पाठ्यक्रम में १० स्थान नेपाल के उम्मीदवारों के लिये सुरक्षित रखे हैं ,

(ख) क्या यह भी सच है कि नेपाल के उम्मीदवार न आने पर भी भारत सरकार ने अभी तक ऐसा कोई निर्देश जारी नहीं किया कि इन स्थानों पर बिहार के उम्मीदवारों को ले लिया जाय , और

(ग) क्या वह भी सच है कि यद्यपि पढ़ाई शुरू हुए एक महीना हो गया है फिर भी कुछ स्थान अभी तक खाली पड़े हैं ?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

EMPLOYEES OF SURVEY OF INDIA DEPARTMENT

**853. Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether employees of certain categories in the Survey of India Department are governed by Factory Act and Industrial Disputes Act; and

(b) if so, what is their number?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes, Sir.

| | |
|---|---|
| (b) Class III | 417 |
| Class IV | 327 |

CLASS IV EMPLOYEES (SURVEY OF INDIA)

**854. Shri N. B. Chowdhury:** Will the Minister of **Natural Resources and Scientific Research** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Class IV employees of Eastern Circle of Survey of India at Shillong are not paid Shillong Compensatory Allowance; and

(b) whether other classes of employees have been given this allowance?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir.

UPLIFT OF *Adivasis*

**855. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Nikhil Utkal Kui Samaj Union in Phulbani District (Orissa) has submitted a scheme of Rs. 1,22,270 for the uplift of *Adivasis* for transmission to the Central Social Welfare Board; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in the matter?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) The Nikhil Utkal Kui Samaj Union has submitted the scheme direct to the Central Social Welfare Board.

(b) Does not arise. In view of the fact that the 'uplift of Adivasis' does not fall within the purview of the Board, it has supplied the Union with literature indicating the fields of welfare activities for which voluntary organisations can apply for financial assistance and has requested them to submit a fresh application in the light of the information given.

WELFARE EXTENSION PROJECTS

**856. Shri R. S. Lal:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state the number of Welfare Extension Projects (Statewise) inaugurated on the 15th August, 1954?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** Attention is invited to reply to Starred Question No. 1264, given on 23rd September, 1954, in the House.

ARREARS OF INCOME-TAX

**857. Shri Sanganna:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) the outstanding arrears of income-tax pending realisation in each circle of the Orissa State; and

(b) the number of revenue certificates issued by Government during the years 1952-53, 1953-54 and 1954-55 (so far) for realisation of income-tax?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) and (b). The information has been called for and will be laid on the Table of the House when received.

INTER-VARSITY YOUTH FESTIVAL

**858. Shri S. N. Das:** Will the Minister of **Education** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have decided to hold an Inter-Varsity Youth Festival in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the important features of its programme?

**The Minister of Education and Natural Resources and Scientific Research (Maulana Azad):** (a) Yes.

(b) Inter-University Competition will be held on the following items:—

1. Arts (Painting—oil and water, pen or pencil drawing, sculpture).
2. Crafts (embroidery, paints designs, leather work, wood carving, clay models, etc).
3. Photography.
4. Classical Music—vocal and instrumental (male and female).
5. Radio Play.
6. Classical Dance (male and female).
7. One Act Play.
8. Hindi Elocution.
9. Group Folk Dance.
10. Play Writing Competition.
11. Poster for the Festival.
12. A design for cover of a journal for Youth called "Naujawan".

GOVERNMENT SERVANTS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

**858-A. Dr. Rama Rao:** Will the Minister of **Finanace** be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Government have received any representations to liberalise the leave rules applicable to the Central Government employees undergoing treatment for tuberculosis; and

(b) If so, the action taken thereon?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** (a) Yes.

(b) The restriction on the grant of "leave not due" on half average pay to permanent and quasi-permanent employees suffering from tuberculosis, which was in existence previously, has been removed.

The maximum amount of extraordinary leave without allowances which temporary Government servants can take on any one occasion has also been increased from twelve months to eighteen months.

EXPORT DUTY ON IRON

**858-B.—Shri Buchhikotaiah:** Will the Minister of **Finance** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any export duty has been levied on iron; and

(b) if so, the total amount realized so far this year on this account?

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** (a) Yes, sir. Export duty is levied on items of iron and steel including under Items 10(a) and 10(b) of the Second Schedule to the Indian Tariff Act, 1934.

(b) The amount of duty realised during the current financial year (upto August, 1954) on items of Iron and Steel together is Rs. 1,43,000. The figure for Iron alone is not available

Vol. VII—No. 29
28th September, 1954 (Tuesday)

# LOK SABHA DEBATES

(Part II—Proceedings other than Questions and Answers)

*( Vol. VII contains Nos. 16—31 )*

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI

SIX ANNAS (INLAND) TWO SHILLINGS (FOREIGN)

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## LOK SABHA

*Tuesday, 28th September, 1954.*

*The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock*

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

### QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

*(See Part I)*

12 NOON.

### MESSAGE FROM THE RAJYA SABHA

**Secretary:** Sir, I have to report the following message received from the Secretary of the Rajya Sabha:—

"In accordance with the provisions of rule 125 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Rajya Sabha, I am directed to inform the Lok Sabha that the Rajya Sabha, at its sitting held on the 25th September, 1954, agreed without any amendment to the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Bill, 1954, which was passed by the Lok Sabha at its sitting held on the 22nd September, 1954."

### PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

#### REPORT OF THE SPICES ENQUIRY COMMITTEE.

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Report of the Spices Enquiry Committee. [*Placed in Library. See* No. S-372/54.]

#### STATEMENT re: CORRECTION OF ANSWER TO STARRED QUESTION No. 2130

**The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs (Shri Satya Narayan Sinha):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Statement correcting the reply given to Starred Question No. 2130, asked on the 29th April, 1954. [*Placed in Library. See* No. S-373/54.]

#### REPORT AND STATEMENTS *re*: THE REHABILITATION FINANCE ADMINISTRATION.

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following papers under sub-section (2) of section 18 of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration Act, 1948:—

(1) Report of the Rehabilitation Finance Administration for the half year ended the 31st December, 1953.

(2) Analysis of charges for the year ended the 31st December, 1953.

(3) Statement of loans called up during the year 1953.

(4) Summary of statement of overdue instalments for the period ended the 31st December, 1953.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. S-363/54.]

#### NOTIFICATIONS UNDER CENTRAL EXCISES AND SALT ACT, 1944

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri A. C. Guha):** Sir, I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Central Excises Notifications

[Shri A. C. Guha]

in accordance with section 38 of the Central Excises and Salt Act, 1944:—

(1) Notification No. 18, dated the 10th April, 1954.

(2) Notification No. 20, dated the 27th April, 1954.

(3) Notification No. 25, dated the 4th May, 1954.

(4) Notification No. 27, dated the 12th May, 1954.

(5) Notification No. 29, dated the 2nd June, 1954.

(6) Notification No. 30, dated the 3rd July, 1954.

(7) Notification No. 31, dated the 20th July, 1954.

(8) Notification No. 32, dated the 21st July, 1954.

(9) Notification No. 34, dated the 3rd August, 1954.

(10) Notification No. 35, dated the 20th August, 1954.

[*Placed in Library. See* No. S-362/54.]

## PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

### PRESENTATION OF REPORTS

**Shri B. Das** (Jajpur-Keonjhar): Sir, I beg to present the following Reports of the Public Accounts Committee:—

(i) Eleventh Report on the Hirakud Dam Project; and

(ii) Twelfth Report on (a) Fertilizer Deal: and (b) Pashabhai Patel Implements.

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## MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

### PROPOSED STRIKE BY INSURANCE EMPLOYEES

**Mr. Speaker:** I have received notice of an adjournment motion on the following subject:

"The decision of insurance employees to go on strike to protest against the Government's refusal to set up an all-India Industrial Tribunal for the insurance industry."

I presume, from the language of the notice, that they have not yet gone on strike.

**An Hon. Member:** Nor have they fixed the date.

**Mr. Speaker:** Do I understand it correctly?

**Shri Sadhan Gupta** (Calcutta—South-East): They have decided to go on strike.

**Mr. Speaker:** Who knows that they may not revise their decision? So, it is premature.

**Shri Gadgil** (Poona Central): Possibility of a strike.

**Mr. Speaker:** I am not inclined to allow adjournment motions on possible contingencies. So, I do not think this motion is admissible. If, however, the hon. Member wants to ventilate certain grievances, he can call the attention of the Minister and Government can make a statement of its policy.

**The Deputy Minister of Labour (Shri Abid Ali):** Government's decision in this regard was announced on the 9th of August and thereafter a question was put here in reply to which we clarified the position on the 1st of September.

**Mr. Speaker:** When was the decision for strike taken?

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** After that.

**Mr. Speaker:** If the hon. Member has to bring forth any grievances he can call the attention of the Minister, and if he likes he can supply the information about later developments. In any case, the adjournment motion will not be admissible—I am clear on that point.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** May I make a submission?

**Mr. Speaker:** Not on merits, but on admissibility.

**Shri Sadhan Gupta:** There has been a decision of the insurance employees to go on strike, which must be averted. If, after discussion, we can persuade the Government to take some steps which will avert the strike I think that is worth-while. In that sense a discussion becomes a matter of great public importance. We can anticipate that the decision will be carried into effect, as it normally happens, unless Government change their decision on the appointment of the All-India Tribunal. Therefore, from that point of view, after the opinion of the House is expressed, something may emerge which will make them revise their decision and which will settle the matter amicably.

**Mr. Speaker:** We need not argue this point. Anyway I feel very clear that because a decision is taken it does not necessarily follow that it will be given effect to. The situation is developing and not a definite one today to admit of an adjournment motion. It may equally be argued that a situation which could never arise perhaps may arise as a result of discussion in this House. There can be argument both ways. Therefore, the safer course is not to admit this motion at this stage.

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## DEMANDS* FOR SUPPLEMENTARY GRANTS FOR 1954-55

**Mr. Speaker:** The House will now proceed with the further discussion and voting on Supplementary Demands Nos. 83A and 132 for grants under the Control of the Ministry of Production moved on the 27th of September, 1954.

The time available is one hour and thirty-four minutes. There are also further demands to be put to the vote of the House, 34, 71, 78, 86, 123, 124 and 133, to be moved by Mr. M. C. Shah within the time-limit that is allotted.

After these demands are disposed of, the Appropriation Bill will come in and after the Appropriations Bill there will be discussion for one hour on fall in prices of food and agricultural raw materials. The Appropriations Bill will not take long. It is merely a formal matter and no discussion is generally allowed on that.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao** (Khammam): Yesterday, Mr. Speaker, I was referring to the slow progress at the Neiveli Lignite Mines in South Arcot. As everybody is aware, though these mines contain only inferior quality of brown coal, Government, undertook to work these mines. In the Report issued by the Ministry of Production last year (page 24, paragraph 13) it was said:

> "The South Arcot Lignite Pilot Scheme which was inaugurated on the 5th of March 1953 by the Government of Madras is in progress. The Government of Madras expect the pilot scheme to be completed by August 1954"

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

Only the other day in reply to a question it was stated that the pilot project has not yet been completed. Sir, I need not elaborate upon the importance of these mines for the industrial development of the south. The only colliery which is near-by which could supply coal to South India is the Singareni Collieries. It is producing only 13 to 14 lakhs of tons a year, whereas the requirements of South India is about 25 lakhs. So, unless and until the lignite mines of South Arcot are developed quickly, there will not be any industrial development of the South.

There are many integrated problems connected with the working of the lignite mines. Special wagons have to be constructed for carrying this coal from the mines to the different places. I do not know what steps are being taken in this direction. I now understand that they have deputed some foreign companies to go into the whole scheme

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*Moved with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri T. B. Vittal Rao]

and find out whether it is an economic one. I cannot understand how at this stage the economics of the working of this mine arises. It has been decided to work this mine because the coal that is now obtained by the South Indian factories from the Bangal-Bihar collieries costs as much as Rs. 70 per ton. There is a big bottle-neck; wagons are not easily available, with the result that the coal has to be brought by sea. Whereas the Indian coal which is landed in Chittagong cost only Rs. 50 to Rs. 54 per ton, the South Indian factories have to pay Rs. 70 per ton. This is all the more reason why the lignite mines of South Arcot should be developed as quickly as possible.

I would in this connection like to know from the hon. Minister whether any Indian mining experts or Indian engineers were ever asked to study the possibility of working these mines, before the help of foreign experts were sought. This is a serious problem. There are Mining Engineers who are very well off in this industry, they have engineering skill in working mines. We have introduced the latest working methods of mining in Singareni Collieries, Kathagudium. Why was this entrusted to foreigners? May I know whether Indian mining engineers were appointed to go into this question and whether they have given a report that they cannot do it?

**Shri B. Das** (Jajpur-Keonjhar): There are no Indian engineers knowing anything of lignite.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Next I come to the government collieries. Now the ownership has changed. With that I think the captive nature of this colliery has also changed to some extent. It was previously owned by the Railways. Now it is owned by the Production Ministry. The living conditions of the workers in these mines is very miserable. As it is, the living conditions of coal miners is bad all over. Government should be an ideal employer at least in terms of giving certain amenities to the workers and setting up standards. But they have not gone any far in this direction. For example, though the government collieries realized a profit of Rs. 61 lakhs during 1952-53, what do we find? They have not spent more than Rs. 18 lakhs on amenities for the workers in these two or three years. How are we going to house these workers with this paltry sum of Rs. 18 lakhs. I do not know what is the profit for 1953-54, but we are told that the anticipated profits will be Rs. 40 lakhs. So I would strongly appeal and urge upon the Minister of Production to allocate more money for this purpose.

Another point is retrenchment in these collieries. The Railways require annually 1 crore tons of coal for the running of the railways. And the government collieries are producing only 30 lakhs tons a year. Not only that. Out of these thirty lakhs of tons of coal, a good portion is matallurgical coal which could be utilised for better purposes in our country. So we should immediately put a stop to the utilisation of this metallurgical coal by the railways. I have to refer to another aspect of the matter here. When I had been to the Bihar Collieries and Dhanbad recently, some trade union leaders aproached me and said that there is going to be an enormous retrenchment and that about two thousand people are going to be retrenched. These collieries can be improved and the production could be increased. I am told that the requirements of the Railways alons are 1 crore tons of coal a year, and, as I said, our production in government collieries is only 30 lakhs tons. So by increasing the production by opening new pits these workers who are threatened with retrenchment could be employed. I would make this appeal to the hon. Minister. Of course, I have written to him in this connection, to stop this retrenchment and see that they are

all entertained in the new pits that are likely to be opened.

Lastly, I wish to say that I would like the Government not to be a party to this Industrial Tribunal. We have got the Central Pay Commission's recommendations. Those things could be implemented to all. As this is a tribunal appointed by the Government of India, I would very much like that Government which are owning these collieries should not be a party to the tribunal. Let the tribunal decide whatever it likes. Then we shall see whether we should apply it or not, if the Industrial Tribunal gives an award which is more favourable than what is obtaining according to the Central Pay Commission's recommendations. But let not the Government be a party to the tribunal which the Government itself has appointed.

I commend my cut motion to the House.

**The Minister of Production (Shri K. C. Reddy)**: The hon. Member who has spoken just now has referred to three very important subjects. The first relates to the Lignite project at Neiveli in South India. I am willing to say at the very outset that the Neiveli project in South India and its results are of a far-reaching significance to the industrial development of South India. There can be no two opinions either about the utter necessity of that project to be pushed through or about the pace at which it should be put through. Government are of the opinion that every assistance should be given to this project and that this project should be brought to completion in stages as early as possible. But as the hon. Member has admitted, the pilot project, that is, the experimental quarrying project, now going on at Neiveli is being handled by the Government of Madras. In other words, it is not the direct responsibility of the Government of India so far as the progress of the experimental quarrying project is concerned.

It is true in the initial stages there was not as rapid a progress as one would have wished. But latterly, during the previous few months I am glad to say that quick progress has been registered, and if the present pace of progress continues it is very likely that the experimental project will be completed by the end of this year.

It is true, as the hon. Member has pointed out, that in the Annual Report of the Production Ministry it was said that this project would be completed by about August, 1954. But owing to reasons beyond one's control it has not been possible to do so. There is one unexpected feature there in the working of this project, namely, the water difficulty. Though the water difficulty has not yet manifested itself in an aggravated form, still the difficulty is there and one has to recognize it. But on all accounts even now it is hoped that this experimental project would be completed by the end of this year, as I have indicated. Every step is being taken both by the Government of Madras and the Government of India to see that this project is completed at as early a date as possible. In fact, Government are very anxious that this project should be pushed through as I indicated at the beginning of my remarks.

Before I go to the second point made by the hon. Member, I would like to say that though the Government of Madras is handling the project now, the Government of India have come to their help and given assistance in several directions for the progressing of this experimental project. They have given some machinery worth about Rs. 13 to Rs. 15 lakhs. They have also secured help through the T.C.A. They have sanctioned amounts for the drilling operations that are going on there at present.

So far as the main scheme is concerned, which has got to be finalised

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after this experimental scheme is finished we have got to process it very carefully. It is true that there has been, if I may say so, an omnibus decision that full scale operation should be taken in hand after this experimental project is completed. It is true. But when a big project of that kind has to be taken in hand, several preliminaries have to be looked into carefully and finalised. In other words, a project report has got to be prepared on a very careful basis. It is for the preparation of this project report that the services of a British firm have been requisitioned under the Colombo Plan. The report of that firm is expected to be in our hands by the end of this year. After that report is received, we will give thought to the financing of this scheme, the agency through which this scheme has got to be worked out and other important aspects like that.

The hon. Member was displeased or asked a query as to why Indian talent was not being made use of in this connection. It is the policy of the Government of India to make use of Indian talent wherever available to the maximum extent and only where it is absolutely necessary that the Government of India looks across its borders for help. In this case, there have been one or two committees—technical committees—which are manned by Indians. It is true that there is a United Nations expert also. But, in addition to him there are Indian experts who are already in the field there. In addition to that, recently, a few months ago, a committee was appointed by the Government of India consisting of three Indians—two of them are technical people—in order to go into certain aspects of the working of that scheme. They did submit a report and that report has been taken into consideration by the Government of India. It is not as if our technical talent is not made use of, and we simply rush into the lap of foreigners for technical advice or help. It is in addition to what our Indian technicians have done. It is in addition to their report that we have gone to the British firm under the Colombo Plan for a project report. After that report is received, there will be quick progress in regard to the full scale working of the lignite mine. I would like to reiterate that the Government are very keen on this scheme, which means not only so much for South India, but also to the entire country. I would like to assure the hon. Member and the House that no efforts will be spared on the part of the Government of India and also, if I may speak for the Government of Madras, on the part of the Government of Madras, to take this scheme to a stage of fruition with the maximum speed.

The next point that the hon. Member referred to, relates to the Government collieries. He confined himself to the unsatisfactory condition of the employees there. He characterised the conditions as being very miserable. He was good enough to concede that the conditions of workers all over the collieries are bad. But, he wanted, naturally, that the Government who owned these collieries should be model employers. I would like all employers to be model employers in this country. I would like the working conditions of the employees not only in the collieries, but all over India to be improved to a large extent, so that there would not be any legitimate grievance on the part of anyone so far as welfare is concerned. That is the policy of the Government of India as well. So far as government collieries are concerned, it will be the special responsibility of the Ministry of Production to locate any grievances wherever they exist, study them, and plan for the removal of such grievances, bettering the conditions within a reasonable distance of time, when the Ministry could claim on a just basis that they have improved the conditions to a very appreciable extent. I think the measuring rod for this would be less

and less criticism on the part of the opposition there about the unsatisfactory conditions of labour in these collieries.

He made specific reference to the housing conditions. I am free to confess that so far as housing conditions are concerned, we could do much more than what we have been doing. It is true that we have got certain schemes in hand. It is also true and it should not be forgotten that out of the 29,000 or 30,000 labourers working in these collieries, nearly 20,000 have some kind of accommodation or other. It may not be all to the expectation of hon. Members of this House or my expectations. It is a fact that two-thirds of the employees have got houses. It should not also be forgotten that some labour working in these collieries are what is known as casual labour. That is to say, they are agriculturists and they carry on their agricultural operations living in their own houses in their own villages. Wherever they are working in our collieries, it is only by way of casual labour that they come here and work. To that extent, the housing requirements are mitigated. That is a different matter altogether. I would like to say, in this connection, that I stated on the floor of the House last year when a similar supplementary demand came up and when hon. Members referred to the working conditions in these collieries, that we are going to intensify and expand our programme for housing in these collieries. Now, we have got a programme for 1954-55 and even later years. I would like to mention this specially. At the instance of the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply, a revised housing programme has been drawn up in which there is provision for the construction of as many as 5752 miners quarters at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,43,90,000. This programme is under consideration in consultation with the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply. If this programme goes through, as I hope it will go through, it will solve to a major degree, the question of housing labourers in these government collieries.

I may also add that the Labour Ministry have recently sanctioned a revised subsidising housing scheme which stipulates payment of a loan of 37½ per cent. of the actual cost of construction or a sum not exceeding Rs. 1102 besides a subsidy which is payable up to 25 per cent, subject to a maximum of Rs. 735 for a house constructed according to the plans and specifications of the Labour Welfare Fund. The above scheme will be availed of to the extent possible. These are the two major schemes that we have in view. In addition to these schemes, the Ministry of Production have got a programme of building houses for these employees.

Water supply arrangements in the collieries are generally considered to be inadequate. Except in the case of three that are situated in Madhya Pradesh and Orissa, the main sources of water supply are generally rivers and during the summer months, difficulty is unavoidable. Steps are being taken to improve the water supply. Though this point was not raised, I thought I would do well to refer to this as there was some grievance about it.

By and large, as I said in the beginning, I share the dissatisfaction of the hon. Member to some extent that the living conditions of labourers are not quite what we all want and expect them to be. It will be our endeavour to improve them by and by, only commensurate with the limitations of our resources and not on account of any limitations in our intentions and effort.

The other matter to which the hon. Member referred, relates to retrenchment of surplus labour in Government collieries. This has a very long history and it is not necessary for me to go into that history at the present stage. Suffice it to say that at one time, the quantum of surplus labour that was assessed to be

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retrenched in these collieries stood at the huge figure of 5500 or nearly 6000. That was 2 or 3 years ago. In fact, a decision was taken by the Government of India that this retrenchment should be given effect to from the 1st January, 1953, that is to say, about 2 years ago. But, certain technical difficulties intervened—one need not be sorry about them now—and we could not retrench the whole number at that time. What is the position today? Today, instead of about 600 employees who had to be retrenched, in the light of a Fact Finding Committee which went thoroughly into the question, we have got the figure—I am giving the approximate figure—of 1200 to be retrenched. Why do we want to retrench them? Not for the love of it. It is not good for any industry, leave alone collieries, to have surplus labour. It demoralises the workers, if I may say so, and it results in loss to the industry. I had something to do with the trade union movement in my part of the country. In fact, I was very closely identified with labour in the Kolar Gold Fields, and I do know very well what retrenchment means in mass and to each individual worker in any industry. That is why we were not very keen or we did not rush forward to effect this retrenchment in the beginning of 1953 when we had practically decided to go in for this retrenchment. Well, various factors have crept into the situation and today, as I said, instead of five thousand and odd, we have got only one thousand and odd to deal with.

It is true the industrial tribunal is considering this question. We are awaiting the result of the industrial tribunal, but the hon. Members has given me a broad hint that whatever the decision may be there, we have got to take a decision of our own and see to it that no worker is retrenched. Well, so far as the wish of the hon. Member is concerned, I share his wish, but we have got also to take into account other aspects which are relevant to a proper consideration of this subject. Even if retrenchment takes place, it is the policy of the Government of India that those who are retrenched should be found alternative employment.

May I, Sir, in this connection make an appeal to my friends on the opposite side that wherever alternative employment is offered, they should advise the employees—such employees over whom they have got control and influence—in the interests of the industry and in the interests of the employees themselves to avail themselves of such alternative employment and not be doctrinaires, if I may say so, saying: "Give us employment here, or you shall not retrench. If you retrench, we shall give notice. There shall be a strike. There shall be a paralysis of the whole industry." I put this suggestion across in all humility and as responsible leaders of labour, I do not think they will fight shy of assuming the necessary amount of responsibility in this connection and advise the labourers properly even though for the time being, for the moment, there may be the apprehension that they may be unpopular with the employees.

It has been my luck or ill-luck to have advised labour on some critical occasions when they wanted to go on a general strike of a very huge magnitude. When the excitement was very high, it was given to me to advise them: "No, the strike is not proper on an issue like this. Your conduct must be different." And in the end they found themselves profited by such advice which I had the opportunity to give.

So, while I am not in a position to commit myself irrevocably to any statement that there shall be no retrenchment in any circumstances whatsoever, it shall be my endeavour to avoid retrenchment to the maximum possible extent in the collieries. This subject is still an open one, and I would not like to say anything more

about it. And I hope that whatever step the Government of India will be called upon to take ultimately in the light of all relevant factors, the decision would be of a kind that will be acceptable both to the employees and to the Government.

No other point was made, and I hope that after this explanation the cut motions will be withdrawn by the hon. Member.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What is the attitude of the hon. Member regarding the cut motions?

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Except the cut motion about housing, I withdraw the rest of the cut motions.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let me deal with Demand No. 83A first. Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw his cut motion No. 5?

**Hon. Members:** Yes.

*The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, I shall put the Demand to the vote of the House:

The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,36,13,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Government Collieries'."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Then I have to take up the cut motions relating to Demand No. 132. The Hon. Member is not pressing his cut motions Nos. 10 and 12. I shall put cut motion No. 11 to the vote of the House.

*The cut motion was negative.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Has the hon. Member the leave of the House to withdraw his cut motions 10 and 12?

**Hon. Members:** Yes.

*The cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 2,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Production'."

*The motion was adopted.*

DEMAND No. 86—EXPENDITURE ON DISPLACED PERSONS

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, we take up demand No. 86. Shri V. G Deshpande and Shri Rajabhoj. Both of them are absent.

Now, the question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 7,29,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Expenditure on Displaced Persons'."

*The motion was adopted.*

DEMAND No. 123—PURCHASES OF FOODGRAINS—

DEMAND No. 124—OTHER CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, I take up Demand No. 123.

**Shri Tulsidas** (Mehsana West): Demands Nos. 123 and 124 together.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Demands Nos. 123 and 124 will be taken up together.

Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,31,15,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Purchases of Foodgrains'."

Mr. Kelappan. Is he moving his cut motion?

*Building up of a Central Reserve of Foodgrains*

**Shri Kelappan** (Ponnani): Yes, Sir. I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,31,15,00,000 in respect of Purchases of Foodgrains be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Purchase of Rice from Burma*

**Dr. Rama Rao** (Kakinada): I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 1,31,15,00,000 in respect of Purchases of Foodgrains be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Demand No. 124.

Motion is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 34,79,80,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture'."

Mr. Gurupadaswamy, Absent; Mr. Sreekantan Nair and Mr. T. K Chaudhury, Absent; Mr. Tulsidas.

*Sugar Import Policy*

**Shri Tulsidas:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,79,80,000 in respect of other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Mr. Madhao Reddi, Absent;

Mr. Sivamurthi Swamy. Moving?

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami** (Kushtagi): Yes, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What number?

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** Nos. 31 and 32.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Not 30?

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** No.

*Failure of Government to Control and regulate Sugar Factories*

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,79,80,000 in respect of Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Proper Supply of Fertilizers to Villagers*

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,79,80,000 in respect of Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100."

*Import of Sugar*

**Dr. Rama Rao:** I beg to move:

"That the demand for a supplementary grant of a sum not exceeding Rs. 34,79,80,000 in respect of Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture be reduced by Rs. 100."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, both the demands as well as the cut motions will be discussed by the House.

**Dr. Rama Rao** rose—

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Shri Tulsidas. I am coming to him.

**Shri Tulsidas:** I refer to demand No. 124. It is in connection with the sugar import policy of the Government.

The House knows very well the reason why sugar is imported into this country since the last two or three years. At one stage, in 1952, sugar

was surplus in this country, and actually we exported sugar from this country. At that time when there was a debate with regard to the reduction of the excise duty and also subsidising sugar for export, I remember that a warning was given to the Government not to fritter away the stocks of sugar which was considered as surplus in the country. Now, Sir, at that time we felt that the prices of sugar would come down very much, and it was better that the surplus was exported. It was also felt, and it was mentioned in the House, that sugar should not have been allowed to be exported, that the surplus sugar should be kept as a buffer stock. Unfortunately, Sir, sugar has been allowed to be exported and to my mind this sugar stock was frittered away. Further, in next year the production of sugar was considerably less. There are two reasons why the production went down. There was a certain amount of psychology in the country that there was too much sugar in the country and therefore, to a certain extent the sugar factories began their production much later than usual in order to reduce the production. This resulted in lesser production in the subsequent year. In 1953-54 there was still less production—of course, this was due to the bad crop conditions. This is only a history as to why sugar is imported into this country and I only hope that the sugar that is imported today in such large quantities will be reduced very much in a few years to come.

To my mind this is a serious problem as we are frittering away our foreign exchange to a considerable extent. We are today importing sugar —at least in this year we are going to import sugar—to the extent of Rs. 50 crores. It is all right that we are in the happy position today that we have our foreign balance of payment in our favour; but, it is a very serious thing that to the extent of Rs. 50 crores we are sending money outside the country. This would be much more useful for the requirements of our capital goods and other requirements.

I know that the lesser production is not merely due to the sugar policy of the Central Government. There is a considerable blame, to my mind, on the State Governments. They have not made any efforts to see that the sugarcane production in the country increases so that the sugar production can be maintained at a higher level.

Again, we are faced with the situation that the consumption in the country today is gone up considerably because at the time when the sugar was controlled the taste of the people turned to the consumption of sugar instead of *gur* or *khandsari* sugar. Today, we have a consumption per year of about 18 lakh tons, which only a few years back was only about 12 to 13 lakh tons. I do not know how we will be able to reach the production of 18 lakh tons within the next couple of years. Efforts have been made to put up new factories, but I do not know whether the new factories will be able to come up and the production will be brought up to the level of our requirements.

Now, Sir, I come to the question of **import policy**. At present, we import sugar on the basis of tenders invited. To my mind, this is all right to the extent that we get our sugar, but the psychology in the country that there is scarcity of sugar remains and continues to remain because we import sugar to the extent of our monthly requirements and, therefore, there is always scarcity of sugar. The external price of sugar is about Rs. 17 to Rs. 18 or sometimes Rs. 20 per maund C.I.F. We have an import duty of Rs. 5 per maund.

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** No; it is much more.

**Shri Tulsidas:** It is Rs. 5 per cwt.

**Shri Kidwai:** It has been increased this year. It is now Rs. 8/2/- per maund.

**Shri Tulsidas:** Actually speaking, the imported sugar, including the duty, will cost Government about Rs. 27 to Rs. 28 and we are selling sugar at about Rs. 30. I can well understand the hon. Minister's intention that if the prices

[Shri Tulsidas]

of sugar come down very much, then there is again the question of increasing production of sugarcane. But, there is always the psychology; there is always the blame on the sugar industry that they are the people who try to shoot up prices saying that there is scarcity in the country and unless that psychology is changed I do not think that this continuous shortage of sugar will ever be removed. To my mind, when the Government is importing to the extent of 18 lakh tons of sugar this year, it would be as well that the sugar is allowed to be imported freely, and even if, supposing, a couple of lakhs of tons more come in the country, it would be serving in future as a buffer-stock. As I pointed out, we have to continue import of sugar for the next 5 or 7 years. I do not think we will be able to reach our production to the extent of 18 lakh tons which is our requirement now; perhaps, in the next couple of years our consumption will go up to 20 lakh tons. Therefore, import of sugar will have to be continued for a very long time. If the price of sugar in outside countries is low and if that is allowed to be imported here and sold at a lower price, then the fear is that the price of sugar will go down to such an extent that the agriculturists will not get the price of sugarcane. I can well appreciate that point of view. But, the point is, if the sugar is allowed to be imported freely and the duty can be raised up to such a level so that the price of sugar does not come down below a certain level, then there will be free import of sugar and there will not be the question of psychology of scarcity of sugar all the time. If the sugar is allowed to be imported freely, the usual trend is that the import of sugar takes place in much larger quantities. I am not afraid to do that because even if sugar is imported in very large quantities the price will not go down to that extent because the sugar duty is raised up. Then there will be enough of sugar and the sugar imported will cost to the importer about the same price as it is supposed to be maintained.

The one reason why I feel that a change of policy is necessary is that today we import only a lakh tons per month. Sometimes the shipments may not come in time and there is always the scare of scarcity of sugar. The other thing which happens is that, when tenders are invited, even though the tenders are invited to the extent of 40 or 100 thousand tons, it is known all over the world that India is a purchaser of sugar. The enquiries that go from here are not for 100 thousand tons only but hundred persons make enquiries about 100 thousand tons each, which multiplies to the extent of a million tons or even more. Therefore, the price immediately goes up in the external markets and in spite of India being in need of 100 thousand tons only for that month, the world market gets the idea that India is in need of about a million tons or more. Therefore, if sugar is to be allowed to be imported and we shall have to continue to import sugar to this extent, then it is in the fitness of things that sugar should be allowed to be imported freely. Let the sugar import duty be raised so that the price of sugar does not go down below a certain level. I think that should be followed at present. Otherwise, I feel the position will continue and the price of sugar will continue to remain high and there will always be a scare that sugar is not available in certain parts of the country. On the one hand, we have completely de-controlled sugar and on the other we are keeping sugar imports at State level to continue a very marginal stock in the country. I can appreciate that during the crushing season there is an enormous amount of sugar. There again the Ministry can order a certain amount of release so that all the sugar is not sold out at a particular time and there may be scarcity of sugar. With regard to import policy, I think sugar can be allowed to be imported for some period after the crushing season is over so that sugar comes in as large quantities as it is required. Even if the import takes place in larger quantities, I do not see why the prices should

not go down because, as I pointed out, the import duties can be raised or lowered. In other commodities, the present trend in the Government policy is that the import or export policy is kept free and the adjustments are done by duties—export duties or import duties. I do not see any reason why the same policy should not be adopted with regard to sugar. That is what my feeling is; I hope the hon. Minister will consider this.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, first of all, I want to mention briefly about Burma rice.....

**Shri Kidwai:** We have left from sugar to rice.

**An Hon. Member:** We are taking up both together to make it sweeter.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister has got the privilege of giving sweet things to the House.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** It is a costly privilege.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** You know we have contracted to import 9 lakh tons of rice. (*Interruptions*) We propose to cover this in three years. The Burmese people who are not well known for their shrewdness have beaten our Government and they have accepted the very liberal proposal to supply the whole rice in the first year.....

**Shri Kidwai:** Not the whole rice.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** The entire quantity of rice is to be supplied at a price of £48 per ton which is fantastic. I do not say that because just now our rice position has become better; I do not want to be clever after the event. I just want to remind the hon. Minister that in 1953 he went to Burma and refused to buy rice at more than £30 a ton. If I am right he refused to buy but one year later.....

**Shri Kidwai:** I think there is some mistake. We purchased that year 1,50,000 tons of rice at £60 a ton.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** I stand corrected, but any way it appears the difference in price between 1953 and especially the beginning of 1954 seems to be fantastic.....

**Shri Kidwai:** £60 and £40 is a fantastic difference!

**Dr. Rama Rao:** The position was different. At present moment, the position as it exists is that a cash price of £33 is very high and much higher than what we hear. Now I come to the other £15 which was credited towards the so-calleddebt.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This seems to work out to Rs. 300 per ton.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** It is more; it comes to nearly Rs. 440 per ton.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It is stated here on page 28 that in all Rs. 84·88 crores were paid for 10 lakhs of tons purchased by the State—it is in the footnote here.

**An Hon. Member:** That is the internal price.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What was the price internally?

**The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa):** It would be Rs. 14 or Rs. 15 per maund whereas imported rice would be Rs. 20 or Rs. 22.

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** We are taking it from the Central pool.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** That is, in addition to cash we are giving £15 credit towards this. I want to mention very briefly about the debt. Burma owed us Rs. 48 crores originally and the accumulated interest was Rs. 24 crores and this whole amount of Rs. 72 crores is being written off with one stroke of the pen. We ought to collect this debt from the British Government which transferred the debt to us instead of asking the British Government to hold at least part of it.

**An Hon. Member:** Why should we discuss it on the rice question?

**Dr. Rama Rao:** This is only part of it: this covers a good part of the debt

[Dr. Rama Rao]

.....(*Interruptions*) The Rs. 72 crores which Burma owed us.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member says that the price paid is heavy.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** It is very heavy.

**Shri Kidwai:** But it is the debt question that he is discussing.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But he says it is included.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** They say that it is our gift to Burma; the debt is being written off instead of collecting it from Britain. We are now still getting the 1952 stock from Burma which even after re-washing does not get fineness .....(*Interruptions*).

**Shri Kidwai:** It is very popular.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** I am coming to sugar and I hope that he will do something about it. You remember they were paying Rs. 1-12-0 a maund for sugarcane and at that price we were able to export a little sugar. Then the Minister, instead of seeing who had got the greatest profit, instead of tackling the real cause of the high price of sugar in the market, namely, the millowners, got hold of the cane producers.....

**Shri Kidwai:** You have just heard the millowner.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** He reduced it from Rs. 1-12-0 to Rs. 1-5-0 and the result was that the cane growers cut down the area and the peasants lost much, with the result that the mills were idle for a long time. The crushing came down. Now we are paying Rs. 52 crores to foreign countries. Just now, Shri Kilachand pointed out.....

**Shri Kidwai:** He is a millowner.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** On that point, I agree with him that instead of frittering away our foreign exchange on sugar we can very easily produce here—to that extent I agree with my hon. friend, Shri Kilachand. Now I am coming to the other point....(*Interruptions*). I request the hon. Food Minister to raise the price of sugarcane and have a control on the sugar mills. The hon. Minister, whatever be his intentions, has no control on the sugar mills and their owners; that is the whole trouble.

**An Hon. Member:** They have no control on him.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** If not on him, many of them are important Congressmen and they can influence the Congress Party. So much so, the officers who have to carry out the orders of the Food Minister are a bit afraid of tackling this big class of millowners. It is a real fact because even if you pay at Rs. 1-12-0 per maund of sugarcane and even if the yield of sugarcane comes to near about 9 per cent—whereas the average yield is more than 9·73 per cent—you can sell—including the cost of production and profits—at the rate of Rs. 30 per maund and the Government can easily sell at Rs. 31 or Rs. 32. But in this case, I am talking of the low-yield sugarcane. If they have proper control over the sugar mills, they can pay a higher price for the sugarcane, give profit to the peasants and the millowners, and at the same time, save our foreign exchange also. In fact, if our rice position is satisfactory, we can have much more sugarcane in parts like Andhra.

1 P.M.

But what is the hon. Food Minister doing? He is not tackling the problem properly. He is just strangling the peasant. You know the well-known story. I do not mean to offend any community, but there is a story in my part which is as follows. A Mussalman and a Chettiar were going out on the road, and they were caught by rain on the way; finding no house for shelter, they got into a small temple dedicated to a deity or goddess. As the rain continued, they closed the doors, and slept inside. For want of space—I do not mean offence towards anybody—the Mussalman put his legs on the deity. The goddess could not do anything. So, she woke up the Chettiar and said, will you make him remove his legs from me, or shall I throttle

your throat. The point that I am trying to make out is that while the hon. Minister is helpful so far as the millowners and the big sharks are concerned, he is just throttling the peasants, like that goddess, and he is actually strangling the peasant today. It is not an impossible thing to increase the price of sugarcane. He can easily increase the price of sugarcane to at least Rs. 1-9-0. But there is a rumour about it—I do not know how far it is true—that he is going to cut it down.

**Shri Kidwai:** I have said that.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** You are going to reduce it?

**Dr. Rama Rao:** I do not know what he said. I do not know whether he is going to accept Rs. 1-9-0 or reduce it still further.

There was a time, you remember, when next to cloth, sugar used to be the biggest item of foreign import, and we were practically helpless. But now conditions have changed. We cannot only produce our entire requirements, but we can export also.

In this connection, I want to say a word on what Shri Tulsidas has said in regard to the free import of sugar. For goodness's sake, I would not ask the hon. Minister to allow it; and if there is any small credit that he gets, it is on this. Though he is unable to handle the millowners, at least he is able to supply—I must give him that credit—sugar at a reasonable price, though at the expense of the poor peasant. If we allow this free import, and allow the millowners to have a free time as usual then the poor peasants as well as the poor consumers will be at the mercy of these millowners and these big merchants.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala** (Bhagalpur Central): I congratulate the hon. Food Minister on his policy of import. By adopting this policy of import, he has proved himself to be the greatest industrialist.

**Shri Kidwai:** You are giving a certificate?

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** You have surpassed them all.

Ours is a Welfare State. Ours is not a state where Government should take up the role of an industrialist, and show profit, and then say, well, we have made so much profit by importing sugar, and therefore, our policy is all right. It is a shameful thing; when the industry has been controlled from top to bottom, for the last twenty-one years, with what face are Government coming today and saying that they are importing sugar to the tune of 50 crores worth? When they laid down this policy, and when they gave protection to this industry, they had some programme before them, namely, that India will be self-sufficient within such and such a time, and they had thought that they would be self-sufficient by then. The Planning Commission, whether it was their premature judgment or a mere guess work whatever one may call it, became very jubilant, and this Government also became so very jubilant, took pride saying, what the Planning Commission had thought of achieving in 1954, they have achieved in 1952. I would like to know from the hon. Minister on what basis he had come to that conclusion. But do they not go deep into the matter and find out what is happening? Should they not find out what the high sugar production in 1952 was due to? If there were certain circumstances which had given us more sugar in that year, did the hon. Food Minister try to find out what those circumstances were ? Why did he not allow that policy to continue?

It is often said, just as my hon. friend Shri Tulsidas has said, that whenever there is anything wrong, it is the industrialists who are to be blamed. If there is less sugar production, the industrialists are blamed and it is said that the fault lies on the industrialists. They are regarded as exploiters. I agree with those who say like that. But here the exploiters were not only the industrialists, but three elements combined: and the worst exploiter was Government. In 1933, when they gave protection to this industry,

[Shri Jhunjhunwala]

they levied a cess of one pice on sugarcane, and said that about fifty per cent of this cess—I do not exactly remember the percentage—would be utilised for the development of cane.

**Shri Kidwai:** Who said it?

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** It was the Government that levied the cess. I do not know whether you were at that time in Government or not. I think it was the State Government, and probably you were in Uttar Pradesh at that time.

**Shri Kidwai:** I was born there. That is correct but I was not in any Government. I may inform the hon. Member that there is no tax or cess today. He will not find it in the Constitution. Therefore, what was possible in 1933 is not possible today. There is no cess now. People call it cess, as it was called cess before. It is a State tax that the Constitution allows them to have, without any regard as to whether sugar is developed or not.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Whether it is a cess or a tax or whatever it is, my point is that Government have been the worst exploiter, and they have stood in the way of the development of this industry, instead of trying to help this industry. In the beginning, they had given us an assurance that the cess is being charged for development of the sugarcane. It was said, we shall produce sugarcane which will in a way give us more furnover, and there will be more sucrose in sugarcane. But compare that time with today. Now you are getting three annas per maund as cess, or as tax, as the hon. Minister says.

**Shri Kidwai:** As the Constitution says.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Whatever you may call it, whether the Constitution says or somebody else says it, now you are taking protection under the Constitution for this levy. The Constitution was framed in its draft form in 1947, and even before that you had raised the cess to two annas and six pies.

You were there in U.P. at that time, and the cess was raised to 2½ annas. Now, you say that because there is the Constitution, therefore, we do not call it cess, we call it tax.

My point is that in India, we can produce sugar at a competitive rate. But here instead of there being only one exploiter, there are three exploiters, and the greatest exploiter is the Government which does not perform its duty, charges cess on a particular promise and then diverts it as a sort of revenue and utilises it for some other purpose. Now, if the sugarcane producers cannot get sufficient price simply because there is no good outturn per acre.....

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** Is the hon. Member in order in criticising the State Government who are not here to defend themselves against these accusations?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Member can say it carefully.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** I will now proceed with the greatest care. My hon. friend, Dr. Deshmukh, has said that it is a State subject; otherwise, they would have taken some precaution. Here I would like to ask one thing. You have been thinking of rationalising the sugar industry.

**Shri Kidwai:** Who has been thinking?

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** If you are not thinking so, then leave the cultivator free, leave the industry free, charge whatever you like, and then you can say: 'Well, who it is who is thinking?' Yesterday, the Commerce and Industry Minister said: 'Well, we are not nationalising industries. But we are controlling the industry'. Controlling an industry amounts to a better way of nationalisation. I quite agree with him: I do not differ from him at all. But here they have totally failed. Whatever my friend, Dr. Deshmukh, may say, that it is a State subject and it is the State's concern, now it is the Central Government who have taken upon themselves the responsibility for fixing the price of cane, for fixing the price of

sugar, for fixing everything, for importing sugar, for charging a high price on sugar, for distributing sugar and for making profit. My friend, Mr. Tulsidas, has said: 'Well, you should allow free import of sugar and you should give licences to everybody who comes for importing sugar'. Probably, the Food Minister will not agree to it and I too do not say that he should agree to it.

**Shri Kidwai:** I would ask your advice.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** I am not fit to give you advice. You will follow the advice of, say, Mr. Tulsidas.

**Shri Kidwai:** Very good.

**Shri Jhunjhunwala:** Though they will not be importing sugar, they will be distributing sugar and in the same way they will be making their own profit. You are saying: 'I shall specially distribute sugar in the State of Delhi'. I understand he is calling for tenders from people who will distribute sugar. There are so many conditions that only "Mr. Tulsidas" can take that agency of selling sugar and nobody else. (*Interruption*) Therefore, it is no concern of his whether he gets licences for importing sugar from outside or whether he gets agency for selling sugar here. (*Interruption*).

As there is no time, it will not be possible for me to give you facts and figures. In the end I say only this, and this can be proved by facts and figures that India is in a position to produce sufficient sugar to compete in the market if these three exploiters take it into their heads to see to the country's interest and not to their personal interest, and they discharge their duty.

**Shri Kidwai:** I agree with you.

**Shri Kelappan:** At the time of the presentation of the Budget, the deficit of sugar was considered to be 3.8 lakhs tons. Now, it is 6.9 lakh tons. I do not know what it will be by the end of the financial year. The Ministry do not seem to know their own mind about this question.



**Pandit S. C. Mishra** (Monghyr—North-East): The more profits they get, the more they import.

**Shri Kelappan:** Now they are going to import sugar to the tune of Rs. 50 crores. The country was self-sufficient in sugar for the last few years.

The Ministry once thought that they had even a surplus to export, and they lost about Rs. 3 lakhs in the gamble.

**Shri Kidwai:** We did not lose anything.

**Shri Kelappan:** Sugar was subsidised so that it might be sold in the world market at a lower price.

**Shri M. V. Krishnappa:** We made a profit of Rs. 3 crores out of sugar.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava** (Gurgaon): At whose expense?

**Shri Kelappan:** It is said here that a subsidy of Rs. 3 lakhs was given by the Government to the sugar magnates...

**Shri Kidwai:** No.

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** Is the hon. Member referring to fertilisers?

**Shri Kelappan:** No, no. I am referring to sugar.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Because I find in the note here some subsidy has been given for fertilisers, and side by side, I find mention about sugar.

**Shri Kelappan:** If you will kindly look to page 15, it says "Compensation paid to sugar factories on account of export of sugar at reduced price —Rs. 2,23,000". This amount was paid to the millowners.

> "A provision of Rs. 3,50,000 was made during the financial year 1953-54 for payment of compensation on export of about 6316 tons of sugar during 1952-53 as a result of the Government's decision to release sugar for export at a reduced price, the reduction being not more than Rs. 2 per maund. Out of this sum, only Rs. 53,304 could be paid upto 31st March 1954 as the question

[Shri Kelappan]

of the admissibility of the pending claims could not be finalised by that date. A sum of Rs. 2.23 lakhs is now required to be paid during the current financial year...

**Shri Kidwai:** There is no export in the current financial year.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This is only the balance of the previous year. That was in connection with export. That was a different policy, of exporting when there was sufficient stock here at a reduced price.

**Shri Kelappan.** What I said was that the Government had to pay Rs. 2 lakhs and odd to subsidise the sugar that was exported. The shortage of sugar, I am afraid, is more imaginary than real. Even if there is a shortage now, it can be only a temporary phase and it can be made up without resorting to imports. If the cane growers are paid an economic price, the production of cane will certainly shoot up. Moreover, I want the Government to realise that sugar is not a staple food like rice or wheat. Sir, there are people in the villages who do not take any sugar at all. It was only after the villagers acquired the habit of tea-drinking that they have taken to the use of sugar. Even if there is shortage of sugar, I cannot understand why we should import Rs. 50 crores worth of sugar. Only a fraction of this amount will be enough for subsidising small production units for making sugar from palm juice. It will supply the need and also provide work for thousands of people and will go a long way to solve the problem of unemployment. We are short of ever so many things. This unrestricted import is the remedy which the Britishers adopted. They had a very soft corner for the consumers in this country. Shortage, I believe, must be the incentive for increased production and must not be an excuse for enhanced import.

With these words, I commend my cut motion to the House.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi** (Nellore): Sir, I have very few observations to make. It is evidently due to the large import of rice from Burma there was a reduction in the price of rice in India.

**Shri Kidwai:** Sir, if we import rice at very high prices, as it is said we do from Burma, then why should the price of cheaper rice go down?

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** The very fact that there is a large stock of rice available in the country gives a downward trend to prices in the market.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The reserve is intended for the purpose of keeping down the prices and when prices soar up the stocks would be released.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I am only trying to point out the plight of the rice growers. Between last year's prices and this year's prices there seems to be a variation from 15 to 20 per cent downward.

I have one little doubt to be cleared with regard to the import of rice. Large stocks of rice from Burma are purchased and imported into India and also large stocks of rice are purchased in the surplus districts and are stored up. I have got my own doubts whether we have got sufficient storage facilities to store up all these stocks purchased. If there are not such facilities in cities or the headquarters of the deficit States, such storage facilities can be secured locally in the surplus districts and stocked there.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** They are building granaries at a cost of two crores of rupees.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** Before they thought of building up stocks, before they thought of purchasing large stocks of rice from elsewhere and stocking them they should have thought of building up these granaries. When they are importing in the form of rice, there is every possibility of the rice getting deteriorated much more quickly than if it is in the form

of paddy. If there is any possibility of importing either from Burma or from the surplus districts to the deficit districts, it must be in the form of paddy and not so much in the form of rice because rice deteriorates even within a period of two or three months if it is in the polished state. If it is unpolished, probably, the keeping quality will be longer. But, what prevents the Government from importing paddy and not rice, so that whatever we purchase from outside or from the internal market might be kept on for a longer period without being attended to and without having the necessity of removing the weevils etc?. This policy has been pursued for a long time and I have reason to doubt that a large amount of deterioration has set in and large quantities of rice have to be thrown out or, probably, dumped upon the poor consumer who could not afford to get it from elsewhere.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is it rice without husk that is imported?

**Shri Kidwai:** It is rice without husk. I may inform the hon. Member that last year when we tried to export some paddy from Orissa and also from Andhra, the State Governments and the millers protested that we are taking away their income.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I am also coming to that point. That is why I suggested that storage facilities may be secured internally in the surplus districts so that when that rice is required elsewhere, the paddy can be dehusked and exported in the form of rice, instead of taking the stocks in the form of rice and storing them. It is much better to store them in the surplus districts themselves and then exporting them in the form of rice after dehusking such quantities as are required from time to time. The present policy seems to be pursued without having an eye on the quality of rice that they are finally distributing to the consumer and without having a proper appreciation of the position of the consumer in that respect. We often hear that very large quantities of rice were thrown out or were sold in the market and, probably, it is the lot of the poor people to take the deteriorated quality rice.

It is said that some one lakh tons of sulphate of ammonia are going to be imported or have been imported. It is already known that large quantities of sulphate of ammonia produced internally are available and not disposed of. When that is the position, there is no meaning in importing.

**Shri Kidwai:** This was the position in 1952. In 1952, we had surplus of sulphate of ammonia and we found it difficult to store it. Because in 1952 this was the position, you cannot say, 'why are you importing in 1954', when there is hardly any stock with us.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I do not know, Sir, how the production figures will compare with what has been now said by the hon. Minister for Food.

**Shri Kidwai:** I did not say anything about production.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I would like to say that today there may not be any surplus stocks of ammonium sulphate. But whether the offtake of ammonium sulphate this year will be the same as of last year or whether next year the offtake will be the same as this year in view of the falling price of foodgrains.

**Shri Kidwai:** It is much more.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** In regard to this sulphate of ammonia there seems to be a mania.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh:** It is a very good mania.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi:** I would like if the hon. Minister would understand whether this mania is good or bad.

**An Hon. Member:** Mania or megalomania.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi**: I would only suggest to the hon. Minister that some investigation should be made into the products that are grown with the aid of sulphate of ammonia. I have grave doubts, if there is a chemical analysis of the grains that are produced with the aid of sulphate of ammonia or of the vegetables that are produced with the aid of that, there may be something which may have some harmful effect on the human organism and human health. I would only suggest that a scientific investigation might be made and that the people should be assured that further use—or rather indiscriminate use—of sulphate of ammonia would not in any way affect human health.

Just a word about the import of sugar, Sir. It is very unhappy that the Government of India should think of large imports of sugar. While we were promised last year that there is a large surplus of sugar in India which has to be or can be exported out of India, and we all felt very glad that sugar production has increased and that the sugarcane grower's position is also going to be improved. In 1954, we see just the reverse of it. We are going to import several lakhs tons of sugar which is going to affect not only the internal consumer but also—in a way—the productive capacity of our sugar mills. While I do not very much appreciate any attack on the sugar mills.....

**Shri Kidwai**: Of course, not.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi**:.....I would suggest that the grower's position must be taken care of. We have known that in 1953 there has been a 25 per cent. reduction in the cane prices and I am told that there might be a further reduction. I do not know what the present policy of the Government is.

**Shri Kidwai**: To reduce it further.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi**: The hon. Minister assures us a further reduction and thereby assures that the condition of the sugarcane grower will be further reduced. There has been a clamour both in North India and South India that there must be an appreciation of the sugarcane prices, which unfortunately the Government is not able to appreciate very much. There has been not a mere agitation but a real feeling that the Central Government is not treating the sugarcane growers well. On the other hand, it is pursuing a policy of reducing the sugarcane prices and thereby affecting the sugarcane cultivator both the owner of the land, who is the tiller of the land, as well as the tenant suffer on account of this reduction in prices or further reduction of sugarcane prices.

In last week's Madras papers I have seen that there has been a slight appreciation of the extent of sugarcane acreage, but that should not delude us into feeling that everything is all right in South India and that the mere fact that there is an appreciation in the acreage of sugarcane means an appreciation on the part of the sugarcane grower that he is able to put up with the reduced prices and, as such, he can sustain himself. On the other hand, we have to consider in what areas such appreciation of sugarcane acreage has been there and in what areas it has not been there. Probably, the appreciation of sugarcane area seems to be more in places where there are no sugar factories and we have yet to know whether there has been an increase in the sugarcane area in places covered by sugar factories in South India. The SISMA formula, no doubt, helps the cane grower to some extent, but in actual working, there seems to be a loud noise against that also.

**Shri Kidwai**: I have not heard any.

**Shri Ramachandra Reddi**: The deaf man hears nothing, and as long as the Government wishes to be deaf, there is no possibility of making them react to any agitation that is going abroad. Though the position in South India is, according to the Government

of India, encouraging, the position in North India seems to be worse. They do not seem to have any benefit out of this formula and their cost of production seems to be much higher than in South India. In the circumstances, it behoves the Government to reconsider the entire situation in the light of the sugarcane growers' plight and to see that the appreciation of the former price of 1952-53 is revived, namely, Rs. 1-12 per maund. It has been said by the hon. Member, Shri Jhunjhunwala, that we have to think of the welfare State. The welfare of the sugarcane manufacturers alone should not be taken into consideration; the welfare of the sugarcane producers, since sugarcane is the basic material for the production of sugar,—has to be thought of more closely. There is no use of simply snapping at the position of the sugarcane grower and much has to be done to revive his enthusiasm and to see that we do not import any sugar in future years.

Finally, I would only urge upon the Government the need to look into the question of exporting or importing paddy and not rice, and if there is a possibility of or if there is a need for agitation in favour of importing only rice from a surplus district to a deficit district, the storage facilities should be found out locally in each district and whenever rice is wanted for export, then and there it must be de-husked and sent abroad. Otherwise, the percentage of deterioration of rice will be greater and the consumer ultimately will suffer on account of it.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava may now speak. I will then call upon the hon. Minister.

पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव : जनाब डिप्टी स्पीकर, मेरा इस सम्बन्ध में बोलने का कोई विचार नहीं था, लेकिन जो कुछ बहस मैंने सुनी और श्री झुनझुनवाला की जो स्पीच अभी सुनी, उन सब को सुन कर मुझे कुछ कहने का साहस हुआ है। मैं इस मौके पर जब कि कटमोशन पेश हैं, यह अर्ज करना नहीं चाहता कि सरकार कल्टीवेटर के लिये क्या प्राइस मुकर्रर करती हैं और जो शुगर मैन्युफैक्चर्स हैं या शुगर फैक्टरीज वाले हैं उनको कितना फायदा रहता है या साउथ के अन्दर नुकसान है या नार्थ के अन्दर कितना नुकसान है। मैं जो कुछ इस वक्त आपके सामने अर्ज करना चाहता हूं वह इन सब से मुख्तलिफ है।

सन् १९३२ में जब सरकार ने शुगर इंडस्ट्री को प्रोटेक्शन दिया और जो आज तक शुगर इंडस्ट्री की सूरत रही है और जैसी हालत शुगर की हमारे सामने गुजरी है उससे हमें यह उम्मीद थी कि हिन्दुस्तान थोड़े ही अर्से में शुगर के मामले में सेल्फ सफिशियेंट हो जायगा। पिछले तीस वर्षों में हमने देखा कि शुगर की यह हालत थी कि देश में शुगर सात, आठ रुपये मन के हिसाब से बिक रही थी और हम यह सोचते थे कि सात आठ रुपये मन के हिसाब से बेच कर हम किस तरह सारी शुगर फैक्टरीज को उठा सकेंगे। करीब तीन वर्ष हुए शुगर इस देश के अन्दर इतनी पैदा हुई कि शुगर एक्सपोर्ट भी की जायगी और अगर वह बाहर नहीं भेजी जायगी तो न मालूम शुगर किस भाव पर जाकर बिकेगी, लेकिन हम क्या देखते हैं कि बजाय बाहर भेजने के पिछले दो वर्ष के अन्दर तकरीबन् ६, ७ लाख टन शुगर बाहर से मंगवायी जा रही है। मैं अपने आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब की खिदमत में बड़े अदब से अर्ज करूंगा कि जहां सारे देश भर में यह तसल्ली है और संतोष है कि हमारे आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब ने इस खुराक का मसला हल कर दिया और करोड़ों और अरबों रुपया इस देश का बाहर जाने से बचा दिया। लेकिन मैं अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि यह जो करीब ५२ करोड़ रुपये की शुगर बाहर से इस देश में आती है, वह शुगर यहां नहीं आनी चाहिये, अगर हम ने पूरे तौर पर अपनी पालिसी में कामयाब होना है। मैं जब इस हिसाब को देखता हूं और पढ़ता हूं कि ५२ करोड़ रुपये की यहां पर तकरीबन् शुगर आयेगी Against the total expenditure of Rs. 52·66 crores provided for during

[पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव]

1954-55, recoveries of Rs. 56.47 crores are anticipated during the whole year on account of sales of sugar.

गवर्नमेंट समझती होगी कि वसूली ५६ करोड़ रुपये की होगी जब कि शुगर बाहर से ५२ करोड़ रुपये की आयेगी, तो इसमें करीब तीन करोड़ रुपये का फायदा रहेगा । फायदा रहेगा या नहीं, स्टेट को कितना फायदा होगा और सेंट्रल गवर्नमेंट को कितना फायदा होगा, मैं इससे कंसर्नड् नहीं हूं । हमारी हालत तो उस कुत्ते की तरह से हो रही है जिसके मुंह में हड्डी है, उस हड्डी में से खून आ रहा है तो उसको यह ख्याल दूर कर देना चाहिये कि वह खून उस हड्डी में से आ रहा है । दरअसल उस हड्डी में से खून नहीं आ रहा है, बल्कि उसके मुंह से ही निकल रहा है । यह ५२ करोड़ रुपया हमारे देश का दूसरे देशों में जा रहा है, मुझे इससे वास्ता नहीं कि गवर्नमेंट इस शुगर की बिक्री पर करीब तीन करोड़ का मुनाफा कमायेगी, मेरे नजदीक यह इम्मैटीरियल है । मैं तो यह चाहता हूं कि हमारे इस देश में जो शुगर के लिहाज से शायद दुनिया भर में सबसे अच्छा मुल्क है जहां शुगर पैदा हो सकती है, मैं तो चाहूंगा कि इस देश के अन्दर इतनी शुगर पैदा होनी चाहिये कि हमें बाहर से न मंगवानी पड़े । वह भी एक वक्त था जब सन् १९५६ और १९६० में हम करोड़ों मन शक्कर इस देश की दूसरे देशों में भेजा करते थे । सन् १९३२ में बड़े जोर शोर से सारे फिगर्स शुगर के मुताल्लिक गवर्नमेंट के सामने रक्खे गये थे और उस समय जो पुरानी गवर्नमेंट थी उसने इस इंडस्ट्री को प्रोटेक्शन दिया था इस उम्मीद में कि यह देश शुगर में जल्दी ही सेल्फ सफिशियेंट हो जायगा । मगर आज हालत यह बन रही है कि करीब ५० करोड़ या ५२ करोड़ की शक्कर बाहर से आती है, तो हर एक हिन्दुस्तानी का सिर शर्म से झुक जाना चाहिये कि जो चीज हम अपने देश के अन्दर पैदा कर सकते हैं वह हम बाहर से क्यों मंगवाते हैं । हम लोगों को, हमारे कल्टिवेटर्स को, हमारे मैनुफैक्चरर्स को, हर एक को शर्म महसूस होती है कि एक एसेन्शल चीज जो हमारे देश में पैदा हो सकती है और हमारे देश का रुपया देश के अन्दर रह सकता है, उसे हम उस चीज को बाहर से मंगाने में खर्च करते हैं । इसलिये, मुझे ज्यादा जोर से कहने की जरूरत नहीं है, मैं महसूस करता हूं कि हमारे आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहबान इस बात को खुद अच्छी तरह महसूस करते हैं कि किस तरह से देश का रुपया ड्रेन हो रहा है ।

**पंडित के० सी० शर्मा** (जिला मेरठ---दक्षिण): वह शर्मिंदा हैं ।

**श्री किदवई** : नहीं, हम शर्मिंदा नहीं हैं ।

**श्री नंद लाल शर्मा** (सीकर) : उन को शर्म आती ही नहीं है ।

**पंडित ठाकुर दास भार्गव** : मैं बहुत अदब से अर्ज करना चाहता हूं कि यहां पर अक्सर कहा जाता है कि हमारे देश में पहले के मुकाबले में बहुत ज्यादा जमीन बोई जाती है । पिछले दो साल हुए जब तक खुराक का मसला हल नहीं हुआ था, उस वक्त लोग फिगर्स कोट करते थे कि हमारे यहां जमीन ज्यादा बोई जाती है, लेकिन पैदावार कम होती है । यह तो उसी तरह से हुआ जैसे कि कहा जाता था :

"फतेह सरकार की होती है, कब्जा जर्मन का होता है । " हम लोग अब क्या समझें कि हम खुराक के लिहाज से तो सेल्फ सफिशेंट हो गये हैं लेकिन शुगर में कमी वाकय हो गई है ? मेरी समझ में नहीं आता कि जो खुराक के अन्दर बेहतरी हुई थी क्या वह शुगर की कास्ट पर हुई थी ? आखिर यह किस चीज की कास्ट पर हुई है ? अगर अब लोग शुगर ज्यादा खाने लगे हैं, तो बड़ी खुशी की बात है । लेकिन ताहम अगर शुगर खाने से हमारा रुपया इस तरह से बाहर जाता है तो इस मुल्क में गुड़ भी तो पैदा होता है । आप को चाहिये कि आप इस मामले में रिवर्ट बैक करें ।

मैं अर्ज करूंगा कि जब हमारा ५२ करोड़ रुपया इस तरह से बाहर चला जायेगा तो हमें वही मुसीबत नजर आयेगी जो कि खुराक के

अन्दर नजर आती हैं । मैं अदब से अर्ज करूंगा कि इस पर गौर फरमाया जाय और जितनी जल्दी हो सके दंश के अन्दर इस का इन्तजाम किया जाय । इस दंश के अन्दर आप ने पानी का इन्तजाम किया, जमीन आप ने बहुत तोड़ी हैं तो कोई वजह नहीं हैं कि हम शुगर आइन्दा भी बाहर से मंगवाते रहें और इतना शुगरकेन पैदा न करें जिस से कि हम शुगर के मामले में सेल्फ सफिशियेंट हो जायें ।

मेरी गुजारिश यह हैं कि जहां हम गवर्नमेन्ट को क्रेडिट देते हैं कि उस ने इतनी अच्छाई से फूड प्राब्लमस को साल्व किया हैं, वहां शुगर के मामले को देखते हुए उस में डिट्रैक्शन होता हैं और उस क्रेडिट में कमी होती हैं जो आप ने कमाया हैं ।

**Shri Kidwai:** Sir, the supplementary demands cover the purchase of rice, import of sugar and import of fertilisers. These three items have been attacked from different angles of views.

When Mr. Tulsidas Kilachand started speaking and spoke of frittering away the foreign exchange of the country, I thought he was thinking on the lines on which Pandit Bhargava expressed himself in the end. But, no. All that he wanted was that instead of Government importing it, the private traders should be allowed to import it. Then the foreign exchange will not be frittered away and it will serve the purpose of the country.

Then another hon. Member said. if you raise the price of sugarcane, now that the price of rice is going down in Andhra, the cultivators will grow more of cane and will grow less of rice. I agree that that danger is there. He hopes it: I fear it, because I come from that part of the country where sugarcane is cultivated over large acreages. Whenever the prices of alternative crops are low, next year there is more sugarcane and less alternative crop. And what is the result? The price of *gur* goes down to an extent that it becomes uneconomic. The House will remember what happened in 1952. The cane crop was so very good that all the factories together could not crush it; *gur* prices came down from Rs. 19 to Rs. 5|8, and the poor cultivator had to suffer. Therefore, whenever you give a higher price to sugarcane than the alternative crop justifies, it happens that sugarcane has to be burnt. The U.P. Government made a special request to the mill-owners to continue crushing in May and even in the first week of June; the poor cultivator had to be content with a lesser price. Instead of Rs. 1/8 or Rs. 1/12 that was the price at that time, the millowners paid only Re. 1/- and also kept something back, because it was agreed that the payment would be according to recovery. So, all these things happened.

It was said that in 1952 we produced about 15 lakhs tons of sugar. True. But imagine the sufferings of the peasants who cultivated the sugarcane. Some had to burn their crop; some had to convert it into *gur* and sell it at Rs. 5/8. We should, therefore, keep these things in mind before fixing the price of sugarcane.

Then there is the question of imports. People say that we should not import. We have got money accumulated in London and it is growing every year, while we here are short of several essential things we need. How are we to bring it here. You can bring it by importing the things that this country requires. Of course, I do admit that we should not fritter away our resources. Mr. Kilachand said —when he was thinking of private imports, not Government imports,—that these should be used for the import of machinery and other things. But what is the money that we have spent in importing machinery during the last five or six years, Pandit Bhargava may be content with investing this money at half a per cent in some London Bank. But I would like this money to come here and to be spent for the things we need.

[Shri Kidwai]

Another hon. Member suggested that this money could be utilised for developing cottage industries which will give employment to a number of people. That money is with us. We have got surplus money with the consumer.

Much has been said about rice stocks. Whatever rice stocks Government possesses, it means that that stock has been taken away from the market and hoarded. That is keeping the price of rice high. And whatever we have imported from Burma is also in Government stock. Therefore, it should not affect the market. But if the prices are still going down, it is because the country has got more rice in stock with the merchants than the country can consume. There has been so much of calamity, floods, scarcity of rain, and still you find that the prices of rice are going down and not going up. This is an assuring feature which the country should welcome.

In regard to fertilisers an hon. Member asked, last year or in 1952, we found it difficult even to store our production: why is it that we are importing this year? From the State from which the hon. Member comes there is talk of shortage of fertilisers and fertilisers being sold at higher prices in the black market. That is why we are importing. The cultivators of this country have taken to using fertilisers and, therefore, we will have to import it in larger and larger quantities for the next three or four years till we have established one or two additional factories.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** What about the cut motions?

**Dr. Rama Rao:** I should like to withdraw mine.

**Shri Kelappan:** I also.

*The cut motions were, by leave, withdrawn.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 1,31,15,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Purchases of Foodgrains'."

*The motion was adopted*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The cut motions moved are No. 28 by Shri Tulsidas, No. 31 and No. 32 by Shri Sivamurthi Swami and No. 35 by Shri Kelappan and Dr. Rama Rao. Need I put them to the House?

**Shri Tulsidas:** I beg leave of the House to withdraw my cut motion.

*The cut motion was, by leave, withdrawn*

**Shri Sivamurthi Swami:** My cut motions may be put to the House.

**Dr. Rama Rao:** My cut motions may also be put to the House.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Very well. I shall put cut motions Nos. 31, 32 and 35.

*The cut motions were negatived*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The question is:

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 34,79,80,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Other Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture'."

*The motion was adopted*

**Mr. Deputy Speaker:** The other Demands with respect to which there have been no cut motions, I will put together.

Order, order. I will not go on. Hon. Member has no rules and regulations in this House.

The question is:

"That the separate supplementary sums not exceeding the sums shown in the third column of the order paper be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of the following Demands entered in the second column thereof:

Demands Nos. 34, 71, 78, and 130."

*The motion was adopted.*

[*The motions for Demands for supplementary Grants which were adopted by the Lok Sabha are reproduced below*—Ed. of P.P.]

DEMAND NO. 34—CURRENCY.

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 76,31,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Currency'."

DEMAND NO. 71—ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 21,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Administration of justice'."

DEMAND NO. 130—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 3,50,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Scientific Research'."

DEMAND NO. 130—CAPITAL OUTLAY OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR

"That a supplementary sum not exceeding Rs. 4,00,000 be granted to the President to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending the 31st day of March, 1955, in respect of 'Capital Outlay of the Ministry of Labour'."

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## APPROPRIATION (NO. 3) BILL

**The Deputy Minister of Finance (Shri M. C. Shah):** I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1954-55.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1954-55."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Shri M. C. Shah:** I *introduce the Bill and beg to move:

"That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1954-55, be taken into consideration."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

...That the Bill to authorise payment and appropriation of certain further sums from and out of the Consolidated Fund of India for the service of the financial year 1954-55, be taken into consideration."

*The motion was adopted.*

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now we will take up the clauses.

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*Introduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Mr. Deputy-Speaker]

The question is:

"That clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, clause 1, the Title and the Enacting Formula stand part of the Bill."

*The motion was adopted.*

*Clauses 2 and 3, the Schedule, clause 1, the Title and the Enacting Formula were added to the Bill.*

**Shri M. C. Shah:** I beg to move:

"That the Bill be passed."

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The question is:

"That the Bill be passed."

*The motion was adopted.*

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## FALL IN PRICES OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL RAW MATERIALS

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The House will now proceed with the one hour discussion on Fall in prices of food and agricultural raw materials. Mr. Asoka Mehta.

**Shri A. M. Thomas** (Ernakulam): Sir, I wish to make a submission. This subject is of vital importance to the country, and in one hour's time we can only pay scant attention to it I request that two hours' time may be allotted to it.

**Dr. Krishnaswami** (Kancheepuram): We can sit up to 7 o'clock in the evening.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** One hour has been fixed already.

**Dr. Krishnaswami:** It is such an important subject that it will be difficult to do even bare justice in one hour.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** We find it difficult to gather quorum here even at five o'clock.

**Dr. Krishnaswami:** It is full now.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** It will be poorer still afterwards. One hour will stand. Shri Asoka Mehta will have fifteen minutes. The hon. Minister will have fifteen minutes. That means thirty minutes. The rest of the Members will have three minutes each, as there are many hon. Members wanting to speak.

**An Hon. Member:** We must have two hours.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am helpless in the matter. The time has been fixed. Hon. Members do not raise the matter earlier. They must have raised it earlier. The time available is one hour. The next is Shri V. P. Nayar's motion. If that is to be put off...

**Dr. Krishnaswami:** It can be.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** But he must agree.

**Shri T. B. Vittal Rao** (Khammam): How can that be put off?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** There is difference of opinion.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene** (Trivandrum): I oppose putting it off.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Very well. All ladies are opposed to putting it off. Mr. Asoka Mehta.

**Shri Asoka Mehta** (Bhandara): There is a general fall in the prices of agricultural products. According to the Economic Adviser's Series, the index number of food articles (with August 1939 as the base) which stood at 381·9 in January 1954 fell to 348·1 on 10th July, 1954. The index number of industrial raw materials fell from 481·8 in January, 1954 to 416·5 on 7th August, 1954. There was no corresponding fall in the indices of semi-manufactured articles and manufactured articles. The index number of the former was 361.5 in January, 1954 and 352 on 7th August. And the latter rose—while the indices of agricultural products have been falling the index number of manufactured articles rose—from 364·3 in January, 1954 to

376·1 on 7th August, 1954. The disparity between the prices of food articles and industrial raw materials on the one hand and of semi-manufactured articles and manufactured articles on the other is increasing. And this should cause serious concern to all our people. Over the period of April to July, that is in the last three months alone, there has been a fall of nearly fifty points in the price of industrial raw materials and about thirty-five points in the price of food articles.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

2 P.M.

What is this due to? And what are the effects and consequences of this? The July issue of *Agricultural Situation in India* tells us that "An important feature of the price position in June was that unlike the past, there was no firming up of the prices of rice and millets despite the setting in of the off-season in that month.

> "In the case of wheat, some fall in prices was natural after the harvesting of the new crops in 1954, but the fall was accentuated in June and at places, market went below Rs. 10 per maund. Consequently, the Government of India instructed the State Governments of Punjab, the U.P. and Rajasthan to step into the market and buy wheat at Rs. 10 per maund in case the market prices in these States tended to fall below that level."

I would have been happy if this price support had been given as a part of the Government policy. In the latest number of the *Quarterly Economic Report*, that high-powered journal, which costs Rs. 100 per issue, we are told:

> "It is no longer a secret that a minor indiscretion was committed by the Food Ministry in proposing agricultural support without Cabinet consideration or any Government decision in the matter.

I do not know whether the Food Ministry committed a minor indiscretion or not. But, I am anxious to know from the Minister here what is the policy of the Government in this matter. Was this price support an individual expression of a Minister's opinion, was it a temporary aberration on his part or was it a firm, definite policy. Government themselves admit that agricultural prices are not showing the usual firming up that is to be seen, that is normally discernible in this season. Are the Government going to provide the necessary backbone to the prices or this is merely a temporary aberration as the *Quarterly Economic Report* points out, which was done without Cabinet consideration or any Government decision in the matter?

Further, there is an interesting feature of the situation which deserves our consideration. *The Eastern Economist* has pointed out recently that there is a marked gap, a wide gap between wholesale prices and retail prices. *The Eastern Economist* pointed out some time ago that while there has been a general fall in the wheat and rice prices in the wholesale markets, the consumer has been paying about Rs. 14 a maund for wheat and Rs. 20 to Rs. 45 for a maund of rice. These prices do not indicate the existence of plenty on a scale as would be an improvement on the levels prevailing until 1949-50, though the consumer has certainly felt a perceptible change in the conditions since 1950. While the wholesale prices have been falling, there has been no corresponding fall in the retail prices. What is the meaning of this? What are the implications of that? It means that the fall in prices does not benefit the consumer. It means further that the agriculturist is being penalised not to the advantage of any consumer, but to the benefit of the middlemen. This seems to be the result of the policy of the Government. I would like to know what the Government have to say on this matter.

A further aspect of this question has been discussed in a recent issue,

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of the *Agricultural Situation in India* where it has been pointed out that the recent fall in prices of agricultural commodities is a permanent feature, is likely to be a permanent feature, of our economy. The journal argues that the marked improvement in production has led to an increase in the marketable surplus and in an easing of the price situation, enabling the Government to make further relaxations in food control. It is surprising that the Government journal describes the present situation when the agriculturists are seriously disturbed by a market fall in prices as an easing of the situation. If this easing of the situation is likely to have far-reaching effects on the future trend of agricultural prices, its effects on rural areas and on the supply position of agricultural production is also likely to be a significant matter.

The situation has already become serious in wheat. According to the Directorate of Economic Statistics, of the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture, the all-India final estimate of cereals in 1953-54 puts the area and production at 210 million acres and 56 million tons as against 203 million acres and 49 million tons, in the partially revised estimates for 1952-53. This shows an increase of a little over 7 million acres or 3·61 per cent in area and 7 million tons or 14 per cent. in production over the last year. In wheat crops however, the situation is very different, and it is very disturbing. In the wheat crop, the parallel figures show an increase in area of 1.8 million acres or 7·5 per cent. the increase in production is 4,00,000 tons or just 5.5 per cent. In other words, while the production in cereals is more than proportionate to the increase in the area, the production in wheat in spite of favourable weather conditions is less than proportionate. The situation is further worsened by the fact that institutional agricultural credit in India is meagre and miserly. It is disconcerting to find that institutional agricultural credit in India is much below the amount available in small countries like Turkey, Yugoslavia or even Philippines. It is almost one-twentieth of what is available in Japan. When it is realised that 70 per cent. of our people depend on agriculture, and that the slowly returning stability,—the much advertised stability and flexibility of our economy, for which the Government take so much credit, which the Reserve Bank has announced with fanfare in its recent report—the stability and flexibility of our economy are ultimately dependent upon increasing production of agricultural prices, the seriousness of the situation, the implications of the developing situation become obvious.

In this connection, I would like to sound a note of warning. I would like to register my protest against the tendentious, mendacious propaganda and arguments that have been carried on by the vested interests and capitalists in this country. *The Eastern Economist*, on 10th September wrote:

> "The Indian farmer has hitherto practised a high degree of intense culture even though he had to share his produce with the landlord and the State. Hereafter, while falling prices will reduce his marginal returns, the abolition of landlordism will increase his marginal returns. This, coupled with the fact that his marginal costs automatically adjust to falling prices of agricultural commodities, should leave one in no doubt that production will remain unaffected by falling prices."

It is absurd to suggest that the elimination or abolition of landlordism will in any material fashion reduce the burden on the back of the tiller. After all, landlordism is not being eliminated without a high amount of compensation. The burden of the compensation will have to be borne by the poor cultivator. Again, it needs to be remembered that the farmer is interested in the ratio of the prices he receives and the prices for his goods he pays

for the articles that he buys. In other words, the crucial question is the question of parity between agricultural and industrial commodities. The capitalists are interested, and they have been arguing again and again that it is necessary, that it is in the interests of industrial development that prices of agricultural raw materials should fall. They also suggest, as was pointed out by my hon. friend Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy yesterday, they are inviting our attention to the race between profits and wages and they set up an alarm against alleged rising of wages at the expense of profits. The capitalists know that the Government are only too anxious to subsidise the capitalists and give all help. They want to exploit the workers. They want to have all kinds of assistance from the exchequer so that they may be able to build up the industrial edifice on it and have it under their stranglehold. It is this attitude which is reflected here in our country in the interested propaganda that is being carried on by influential capitalists.

But, the question of price parity is of supreme importance. It is unfortunate that we have no systematic statistics on the subject. We find, Sir, that the price parity is working in favour of the agriculturists in Japan. I find that the price parity is working in favour of the agricuturists in some of the countries of Europe. But what is the position in India? We have no figures. All that I could find from the F.A.O. Year Book on food and agricultural statistics for 1953 were some scrappy figures referring to Orissa and Assam, and on the basis of these figures all that I can say is that the price parity is moving against, is becoming more and more adverse to, the agriculturists in our economy. I would like to underscore and support the advice that has recently been given by Prof. Black to the Government of India that statistics on price parity should be collected as early as possible, so that we may know where exactly the peasant stands in our developing economy.

Another interesting feature of the food situation is that food consumption in most areas has not kept pace with increasing production, even though there is immense scope left for such improvement. Recently, *The Economist* pointed out the seriousness of the situation:

> "Nutritionally, the rich are getting richer and at least some of the poor are getting poorer, and the poor in the context have an uncomfortably narrow margin between their present standards and actual famine."

If our food prices continue to fall, if our consumption also lags behind because of lack of purchasing power, we shall be confronted with a situation where all our talks of progress and prosperity will sound hollow in the ears of our people.

This question of price parity is of crucial importance because we are on the eve of, we are moving towards, the elaboration of the Second Five Year Plan; and in the second Plan we are told that the accent will be on industry. So many of our colleagues are dreaming of the rapid industrialisation of our country. Rupees 3,000 crores will be spent on industrialisation. From where are the resources needed for this development going to come? Under capitalist development, the peasant and the peasant always has been made the base on which the industrial structure has been built. Out of his blood, out of his bones have resources been found for the economic development, for the industrial expansion of countries. Who does not know? Those who have read the annals of the industrial revolution in Great Britain will bear me out when I say that true to their policies of enclosure, the peasants were not only deprived of land, of livelihood, but they were driven into factories where they were ruthlessly exploited. And how has the Communist economic edifice been built up, do we not know? Those of us who are familiar with the history of the Soviet Union for the last thirty

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years know how cynically price parity was exploited against the peasant, how collectivisation was used, how the whole process of collectivisation and statisation of agriculture was brought about in order to rob the agriculturist of his surplus. This country of ours, this Gandhi's India, this India that had been shaped by the peculiar traditions of our national movement will not permit you, even if you desire, to exploit the peasants, to build up the industrial strength of this country. That is the reason why we have been demanding that the pattern of industrial development in this country must be very different from what you are trying to bring about—you and your colleagues.

**The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri Kidwai):** How do you know?

**Shri Asoka Mehta:** We shall insist, we shall demand, we shall see to it that the pattern of industrial development in this country is different. But you are deliberately allowing the price parity to go against the agriculturist so that you may find the wherewithal for building up your strength, the strength that we do not care for, the strength of monopolists, the strength of exploiters, so that the poor may become poorer than they have been so far. That is why this question of price parity is of supreme importance, and we want the Government of India to come forward and tell us what is their policy on this question of price policy. There are no statistics. There are no policies. All that I can say is that there is need for a clear statement by the Government both as regards policy as also the machinery for the implementation of price parity; and I want the policy of the Government, not the indiscretion of a Minister; I am anxious to know from the Government what their policy is on this subject.

In this connection, mention has to be made about the increased imports. I am surprised that while food prices are falling, while price support is not available, the Minister goes in for large-scale import of foodstuffs. I do not want to repeat the discussion that has taken place here. It is surprising that rice imports have been increased suddenly and want only from 5·4 lakhs to about 9 lakhs, and wheat imports from 6 lakhs to 9·58 lakhs. If you want to build up buffer stocks in this country, why don't you do something to provide the necessary price support to our economy? Why don't you bring about a reduction of price parity in our country? Why don't you give the agriculturist the feeling that for the first time in the history of economic development, he will have a different deal, he will have an honest deal, a deal which neither capitalism nor communism has given him. It is that challenge that history poses before you and it is to that challenge that Government has to answer.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** I am glad that my friend Shri Asoka Mehta has brought forward this subject for discussion, himself a trade union leader.

**Shri Kidwai:** But I hope not with the vehemence with which he spoke.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** It is generally understood by the vast majority of our people that if there is a slight disturbance to the industrial structure, to the capitalist, or to the industrial labour, then that will shake even the foundations of Government, but in a matter in which 69·8 per cent of our population is concerned, Government is rather cold to the reactions of the agricultural population to any matter of policy that is followed by the Government.

The stabilisation of agricultural prices is a primary duty of the Government since vast majority of our people are dependent on agriculture. About a year back the hon. Food

Minister stated: "You will not have to worry about black market prices. You may eat as much as you can. There will not be any difficulty." He even warned a year back: "Now the problem is going to be the problem of a fall in agricultural prices." It was then thought that it was rash optimism on the part of the hon. Food Minister. But from the figures that have been quoted by Shri Asoka Mehta we find that it is going to be true.

The hon. Food Minister also stated that he had got certain plans to guarantee a minimum price to the producer. That suggestion of the hon. Food Minister, I am sorry to note, was not favourably considered by the business interests. They said that the cost of living index was already high and that if the Government guaranteed a minimum price to the producer, then there might not be any fall at all in the cost of living index. It is a mistake to suppose that if there is a fall in agricultural products, there will be a corresponding fall in the cost of living index. We may be able to note from the figures that even if the producer prices come down steeply, that will not make much difference in the level of the cost of living index. That is a fact which the Government has to bear in mind.

Then, difficulties were also pointed out by the business interests, difficulties which were not even put forward by the Government, regarding storage facilities if the Government took over all the surplus stock and guaranteed a minimum price. So that, my only submission to the Government is that Government should not be influenced by the fears that have been expressed by the capitalist interests, by the industrial sector but should form a bold policy in this matter of having stabilised prices for our food crops and other industrial raw products. It has been pointed out by Shri Asoka Mehta that even in the case of rice itself in 1953-54 an additional production of about seven million tons has been anticipated. Because of the floods that have occurred in different parts of the country, perhaps that estimate may not come true, but even then our problem is...

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** Those figures are actuals of last year.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** Perhaps you may not get the very same figure this year, 1954-55.

**Shri Kidwai:** You will get.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** But the problem is how we will be able to absorb the marginal accretion to production without violent price fluctuations. That is the problem which the Government has to take into consideration. And I would say, I would plead with Shri Asoka Mehta that the Government must have a price support programme, and only that will save the poor peasant who has been exploited for long.

**Shri V. G. Deshpande** (Guna): There is conflict of interests inherent in this problem of the prices of agricultural products. We find that in the urban area, the middle classes and the labour classes are affected, if the prices rise high, particularly in respect of the foodstuffs. In rural areas, and amongst the agriculturists, in particular, if the prices fall, we find that there is unrest and even deterioration in the economic structure of the whole society, as we have seen generally. People have not realised that out of the population of 70 per cent, which is engaged in agriculture in this whole country, nearly 48 per cent. are land-owning cultivators, and only 22 per cent. are landless labourers. Therefore, the majority of the Indian population is interested in agricultural prices.

Of course, 'agricultural prices' are not exhausted by the prices of foodstuffs only. There are other commodities also, which are required for industry. We have seen how to the detriment of the agriculturist, during this period of inflation, in the interests of the industrialists, the

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agriculturists were deprived of the prices which were their due. I represent the case, particularly, of the cotton growers in Madhya Pradesh. We found that during this whole-period, in order to serve the interests of the textile industry and the middlemen, Government helped the industry and the middlemen, while the cotton growers could not get proper prices. Even in the case of foodstuffs, we found that on account of the rising prices, the middle classes and the lower classes in the city suffered, but the agriculturists did not get proper profits. All the profits went into the pockets of the middlemen. The prices rose when the agriculturists had exhausted their stocks, and the prices came down when they had the stock with them.

Within this limited time, I would make only one proposal to Government, and that is that Government have to determine their policy with regard to the agricultural prices. The first principle that should guide them, while fixing these prices, is that the prices should be economic prices. Agriculture should be considered positively as an industry, and after defraying all the expenses to be incurred in this profession of agriculture, the agriculturist must get a sufficient amount of profit. After fixing these prices which will be economic for an agriculturist, my second proposal is that in order to give relief to the lower and the middle classes and the labourers, Government have to keep with them stocks of foodstuffs, and see that by giving subsidy, the urban population is supplied foodstuffs at an economic level.

**Shri Achuthan** (Crangannur): I am sorry that the hon. Minister of Commerce and Industry is not present in the House, because this subject is connected with his policy also.

Within the limited time at my disposal, I would like to refer to the problems of the coconut growers of West Coast. You know that India has got the second place so far as the world's coconut production is concerned and Travancore-Cochin the largest area in India. During the last six months, the price of coconuts has come down due to the revised import policy of the Government of India. During the last fifteen or twenty years, when the British were in power, they imported large quantities of copra and coconut oil, without considering the interests of the coconut growers, with the result that the prices had gone down even far below those existing today. Subsequently, as a result of the agitations of the coconut growers, the import duty was raised, and the coconut growers were able to get better prices. Again, we find that the import duty has been reduced. In 1952, the import duty was 25 per cent. standard, and 15 per cent. preferential, while the tariff rate was 56 per cent. Suddenly, in 1952-53, it was reduced to 15 per cent. standard. and 5 per cent. preferential duty. Owing to this reduction as also the fact that there was no quantitative restriction in regard to the import of copra from Ceylon and other places, the prices have gone down considerably. Even now, the prices are considerably low, and I have got representations and memoranda from the people of that area,—I have got lots of papers and press cuttings with me—which go to show that unless the import duty is raised, the price will go down still further Formerly, the Ceylon merchants had to pay Rs. 16 per cwt. of copra, but now they have to pay only Rs. 2½ per cwt. At the expense of the Indian agriculturists, the Ceylonese are getting their money. This is so not only in the case of edible oils, but even in the case of industrial products also.

So, the Commerce and Industry Ministry and the Government of India must take care to see that the fall in prices is arrested, and that the import duty is raised to such an

extent as will assure to the growers a reasonable level of prices. I do not say that there should not be a fall in prices at all at any time, but I am only saying that this sudden fall in prices, because of the reduction in import duty, will affect the growers very seriously, and their cry will have far-reaching consequences not only in the economic field, but even in the political field in the West Coast.

**Shri V. B. Gandhi** (Bombay City—North): Shri Asoka Mehta's case is based on the assumption that there has been a fall in the prices of food and agricultural products, a fall of a kind that should cause alarm in this House, and a fall that cannot be explained as a fall due to the seasonal change in prices. Now, what are the facts? He has quoted a set of figures.

Here, in the Reserve Bank of India's Bulletin, for August, 1954 on page 725, we find that in December, 1953, the index number for food articles was 363·4, while on July 31st, 1954, it was 360·6. That certainly is not something very alarming. It is true that in May-June, the prices had fallen considerably. In June, it was 338. From 338 in June, it has picked up to 360·6 in July. That is something that happens as a seasonal change almost every year.

Now, let us go to the other side. Let us not forget that the agricultural producer is also a consumer. and he is interested in a general fall in prices. Has there been a general fall in prices? Besides, what exactly is the overriding consideration of our economic policy for the country today? The overriding consideration of any economic policy suitable for our conditions and for our needs today is one that should be directed towards achieving a steady decline in the prices, and an ultimate stabilisation of prices at a level somewhere near the level of 1948. If that is so, how are we faring?

In the index numbers of wholesale prices, we find that for 1953-54, the index number of wholesale prices was 397·5. For the last two months for which figures are available, i.e., for June and July 1954, the index number of wholesale prices stands at 381·6 and 381·8. It was said that the cost of living was not going down. It is certainly going down. What do these figures mean, if they do not mean that the cost of living is going down? The cost of living index for 1953-54 stood at 106. In April-May, 1954, it stood at 102.

So, as I said, we are moving in the direction in which we ought to move in the interest of our economy. We can concede that it may be necessary some day for this Government to take a long-term view, a view which will take into consideration a pronounced secular trend towards a decline in prices, a trend which is likely to cause continued suffering and loss to the agricultural producers.

**Dr. Krishnaswami:** I should like to invite your attention to two or three facts and then briefly chalk out the possible policies which the Government may follow. It is indisputable that the terms of trade have moved in favour of industry. The question is, is this an unmixed tragedy or can our troubles be turned to our advantage? It is wrong to assume that we are dealing with food prices or foodstuffs in a general category. We have to split it up into the prices of cereals as well as of semi-manufactured foodstuffs, like *atta* and other products. It will be found that so far as the consumers are concerned, they have had not an appreciable fall in the cost of living, a point which has to be borne in mind by all of us who are interested in agriculture and in also building up a sound economy for our country. Before our very eyes during the past seven or eight years, a silent revolution has taken place in the food habits of our countrymen. It is, therefore, quite patent that so far

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as these variegated semi-manufactured foodstuffs are concerned, they bulk much larger in the food budgets of the middle classes than they did ever before. I should also like to point out that the fall in the prices of cereals, though it is a great matter of inconvenience and concern, is not as great a matter of concern as certain other factors which have supervened on the situation. In the first place, in the case of cereals, out of about 50 millions that we produce, only 15 million tons are marketed. The real difficulty is that so far as the other articles are concerned—the raw materials and the other agricultural materials are concerned—they have also shown a tendency to fall appreciably in price, and that is a matter which will cause us grave concern.

The fundamental question which has to be answered by Government, and which can be answered only if we realise the importance of income, is what we are going to do about increasing the income of the agriculturist. The income of the agriculturist is a function not only of the price, but also of the output of agriculture. My hon. friend, Dr Deshmukh, has been a great propagandist in favour of the Japanese method of cultivation. In one State, Bombay, for instance, in spite of the recent fall in prices, there has been a 50 per cent. increase in profit of the agriculturist, thus showing that income is a function not only of the price but also of the output. But the disconcerting factor of the situation is that there has been a very much lower outturn and a very great decrease in output of many of these crops. It is a matter which the Agriculture department would have to go into at great length. Sugarcane, for instance, was mentioned in the debate. They said that Rs. 1-5 per maund was too small. I am not going into the question as to what price should be fixed, but I suggest to the Agriculture Ministry that if the yield per acre, and also the sugar content, is increased, then Rs. 1-5 per maund will give a much higher rate of profit to the agriculturist. No attempt has hitherto been made by the Agriculture Ministry as far as my knowledge goes, to tackle this problem in this manner.

**Dr. P. S. Deshmukh**: We are tackling it in all seriousness.

**Dr. Krishnaswami**: Then we should like to have some enlightenment on this matter so that at least we know how seriousness is matched by constructiveness.

I should like to deal with only one other point, and that is a fundamental point. Some people think that if the prices of agricultural products go down much lower, then it would be a gain to the community. I do not share that view. The demand for textiles, the demand for so many manufactured goods in our urban sector has been kept up precisely because of the fact of there being fairly high prices and there being fairly low income in the agricultural community. I suggest that in this policy, the Planning Commission should revise all its notions. Many of its notions are archaic. I believe that in a period of low agricultural prices, the fundamental thing which has to be done by the Government is that they should increase the amount of expenditure on projects within the many agricultural areas, even road-building and such other projects which will give the agriculturists a greater amount of income and thus also help them to have a greater amount of demand for industrial products. In fact, in a period of low prices in agriculture, it might be really better to concentrate on such type of development.

Speaking on this Planning Commission only a year and a half ago, I pointed out that the terms of trade would move against agriculture be-

cause of the very bias that the Government had in favour of great multi-purpose projects. To turn the whole thing to advantage, I suggest that we should go into this fundamental problem of increasing the amount of expenditure in many of these areas and having better distribution of regional expenditure so that it might be possible to increase the income of our agriculturists. And that ought to be possible in our country where there is a very low propensity to import. India is precisely one of those countries in Asia which has been considered to have the lowest propensity to import, and it is surprising that this has not been taken serious note of. The only effect of some of these suggestions being implemented would be that a little bit of paint will have been knocked from our Planning Commission's carriage and four. Many of their notions about targets would have to be revised. In fact, for most of the consumer goods like textiles and other goods, we would have to have a higher target and not go by the artificial standards which have been imposed by nine men who sit in the Planning Commission and who are far removed, I regret to say, from reality altogether.

**Shri Bansal** (Jhajjar-Rewari): Vigilant and studious as my hon. friend, Shri Asoka Mehta, is, I cannot help saying that he has brought about this debate about three months too late. I know the agricultural prices were showing a downward trend in May, and June, but after June they are showing a healthy upward trend. My friend, Mr. V. B. Gandhi, pointed out these figures. The index of food articles in June was 338. It improved to 360 in July and 366 in September. As regards industrial raw materials, while the index came down to 416 in July from 431 in June, it has gone up to 421 in September. The position in the case of raw cotton is also slightly better because the index number was 430 in June and it is 434 in September. In the case of raw jute, the index was 360 in June and 376 now. I am afraid Shri Asoka Mehta has a pet aversion to the *Eastern Economist*. He seems to imagine that whatever the *Eastern Economist* says is the last word from the side of industrialists. I am glad that on this point at least my friend is wrong. He would be happy to know that as early as July this year, the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, which was one of the first bodies to raise the voice against the precipitate fall in agricultural prices, wrote like this to Government:

> "The Committee of the Federation have to refer to the recent persistent downward trend in agricultural prices. As this trend seems to be more than a mere seasonal one, the Committee feel that its amplications, especially in the matter of agricultural prices *vis-a-vis* economic development, must forthwith receive careful consideration at the hands of Government, so that suitable action may be taken without delay".

They further said:

> "The Committee wish to sound a note of warning against permitting the tempo in the prices of agricultural commodities to such low levels, for that will have serious repercussions on the whole economic and social fabric of the community".

Apart from what the industrialists or the Federation say, I am one of those who believe that we cannot allow our agricultural prices to go down to a level where the agriculturist will find it difficult to purchase his articles of common consumption. Even from our developmental point of view, where will our development be if the vast majority of our masses—after all the agricultural community represents 70 per cent. of our population—do not get adequate prices

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for what they produce? How will our developmental programmes progress? After all, it is in the interests of the community that the agriculturists who represent the bulk of our population get a fair deal for whatever they produce, because only then they will be able to produce its common necessities which are, to some extent, the products of manufacturing industries. Therefore, Sir, in the interests of our developmental economy, it is right that we should not allow agricultural prices to fall precipitately. I am glad that Government did not sleep over this matter and wherever they found that the prices were falling below the economic level, they gave price support at once. They did so in the case of cotton; they did it in the case of some cereals in Saurashtra and, I think, in the case of rice also they came out with that type of policy. But, I think, there is no need of that now because the prices have again been showing a slightly upward trend. But, I say at once that if the prices show again a tendency of going down, Government should not be found wanting and they must come forward with price support at once because we must maintain price parity in order to achieve the success of our developmental programmes.

**Shri Barman** (North Bengal—Reserved—Sch. Castes): Sir, while I join the protest about the fall in prices of agricultural products, I would specially like to invite the attention of the hon. Minister to one of the products which grows in my State, namely, jute.

Sir, within my limited time, I shall simply point out to the hon. Minister certain figures which his own Ministry has given us. It is known to everybody how jute is one of the principal economic items of our country so far as foreign exchange is concerned. At the time of partition in 1947, only 16·59 lakhs of bales were produced in our country. With the great effort that the Agriculture Ministry made and is still making, the production was raised to 46·95 lakhs of bales, that is, practically three times, within the course of a few years. But, Sir, though the Agricultural Department was doing its duty to have more production—we want 60 lakhs of bales for our mills—the production has again gone down to 31 lakhs of bales in the next year, that is 1953-54.

We have it, in the *Jute Bulletin* that has been published in December, this year, that not only has production gone down by 32·1 per cent. but jute average has also gone down by 34·2 per cent. with the result that a decline in the production of jute has been reported by all the jute-growing States. It is, however, more marked in West Bengal and Bihar, and it is mainly due to uncertain weather conditions and fall in prices at the time of sowing. So, if any price support is required, it has been amply proved that it is so in the case of jute and a price incentive is one of the main factors for more production.

In the present year also, that is 1954-55, the estimated production will not exceed 30 lakhs of bales whereas in India we require 60 lakhs bales. We also apprehend that this year in Pakistan also the production will be less and due to that there will be a difficulty of import even from Pakistan. Our jute industry will have also to suffer and there will be unemployment. I simply invite the hon. Minister's attention to this price incentive so far as jute is concerned. He should look into it very seriously and before the next sowing season comes he should fix some minimum price for jute so that there may be some incentive.

**Shri B. K. Das** (Contai): Sir, it may be that at present the situation is not so serious about prices as it has been stated by the hon. Member who

initiated this debate. But the problem of price support for agricultural produce remains a burning question for us.

In this connection, I may refer to two valuable reports that have been before us for some time. The Krishnamachari Committee report which dealt very lucidly with this price support problem has been before the Government for a long time and recently the report of the Jute Enquiry Commission is also before us. About the prices of articles of food, foodgrains and about the prices of commercial agricultural produce, these two documents have very elaborately dealt with them.

My hon. friend, Mr. Barman, has already referred to the problem of jute, and we had occasion, in this House, to discuss the matter previously. All the State Governments which have got jute in their States have pointed out that unless some price support is given to jute, it is impossible to keep the production of jute at a certain level so that we may meet our requirements. But the Commission has not been able to recommend any price support for jute and they have made some alternative suggestions. The main question that arises is how to implement the suggestions of the Krishnamachari Committee and how to implement any suggestion for jute prices. The main problem is of funds. If the Government has to give price support to our agricultural products—be they commercial agricultural products or be they foodgrains—it is very difficult to give that price support unless the Government is prepared to set apart a large sum of money for that purpose. Of course, it is true that Government have been trying to give some support in certain cases when they feel that the situation is going out of hand. But, I feel, there must be some permanent organisation, at least some organisation of the nature suggested by the Krishnamachari Committee report, some organisation like the All India Agricultural Prices Council, which might be an Advisory Committee and which will keep a watch over the prices of all agricultural products and advise Government from time to time, so that when such situations arise, they will take necessary steps.

**Shri Kidwai:** Sir,.....

**Several Hon. Members** *rose*—

**Mr. Chairman:** In a matter like this, I must inform the House—I know there is some complaint about my having called particular members only to speak and I have received many chits also—but it is not realised that in order that hon. Members may be called, they must have, under rule 211, been signatories to the notice. I can only call such of those Members as have appended their signatures to the notice. I have called those Members and I could not possibly call other Members.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh** (Shahabad South): We had given notice but our names were not called.

**Mr. Chairman:** I had called all Members who had given notice and who stood up. If any hon. Member does not choose to stand, I cannot help that.

**Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:** There are Members who have signed and who stood up but have not been called. Capitalists have been called.

**Mr. Chairman:** Unfortunately Dr. Ram Subhag's name does not appear in the list of those who had signed the notice.

**Shri Kidwai:** Sir, I am sorry I was not here when my friend Mr. Asoka Mehta moved this motion. I came in just as he was finishing. If his speech was at the beginning as vehement as it was at the end, I do not think he has made out any case.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** It only rose to a pitch.

**Shri Kidwai:** Sir, I think the Members of this House know that we have been trying to give some price sup-

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port. It is not our desire that the prices of agricultural products should not remain as high as they were two years ago. I know that the prices cannot be brought down precipitately unless there is a reduction in the prices of what the agriculturists consume. Therefore, we have been trying to do something.

Last year we had decided not to make any procurement of paddy or rice in West Bengal. But, we found that the prices had gone down and, at some places, the prices were as low as Rs. 5/8 or Rs. 6/- a maund. Then, we had to step in and ask the Bengal Government to start procurement at slightly lower prices than the procurement prices in the previous year, and we succeeded in keeping up the prices and the production of paddy was so large that we got by this voluntary sale more paddy than we could ever get. Similarly, as some friends know, when the price of wheat started going down below Rs. 10 in Punjab and U. P., I then advised the Governments of the Punjab and U. P. to start purchasing at Rs. 10. Whatever my hon. friend, Mr. Asoka Mehta, may have read in some journal, this policy was not questioned and both the State Governments had made arrangements to start purchasing at Rs. 10 if the prices go down. If there is any indication, I would give the assurance to the agriculturist that some sort of price support will be brought into effect if prices go down precipitately, but prices are high and prices should not go down to the extent that the average Indian agriculturist cannot afford to take his full meal within his income. We hope that the progress that is being made in this country will raise the standard of living of the people, but we also should take into account the result of the different efforts that are being made to increase the yield per acre and that will, in a way, offset the fall in prices, as has already been said. I will ask my friend to see what has been the result of these efforts in Bengal. In Bengal, the yield of rice per acre used to be a little below 8 maunds per acre. Then it went on steadily up and in 1953 the yield was more than 10 maunds and this year, that is, in 1954, the yield has been 14 maunds per acre. It is almost double what it used to be ten years ago. It has gone up a little less than 50 per cent. in the course of this year. If the prices go down, I do not think the agriculturists will suffer. What he may lose by fall in prices, he will gain by rise in the yield of production. This is our policy. I cannot understand all that many hon. Members on the other side said. They say that whatever was the price last year, the price is too high for the poor consumer. Now the price has gone down a little. It is still high for the producer.

**Shri A. M. Thomas:** You keep a balance.

**Shri Kidwai:** Therefore, people say that the produer is suffering. There is another group of persons on the Opposition side who say "Pay the producer a very high price, and when selling it to the consumer, sell it at a price at which he can consume." There must be some balance between the two viewpoints. We are trying to keep up that balance. Friends know that we have already given support to cotton and we have not allowed the cotton prices to go below the minimum. We have given the assurance to the producer that when the prices go below that minimum, we will then start purchasing at that price, and, therefore, they will be assured of that price. The same thing has not been possible about jute, first of all, on account of the comparative and competitive prices between here and Pakistan and also on account of the different qualities that are being produced in different parts of the country. If you give a minimum price support, then that support for the production in Bengal will be too high for the production in Bihar or

Assam where the quality is very different. Still we are working towards it. Whenever it is possible, we will introduce it, but the present-day prices are sufficiently reasonable to ensure a fair return to the producer. We are also going towards a price support wherever it is necessary, but I do not think we have reached a stage where we should rush in for price support because we have to strike a balance between the price of the producer and of the consumer, and I think we have succeeded in doing it.

**The Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri Shahnawaz Khan):** Will the hon. Minister say something about sugarcane also?

**Shri Kidwai:** I thought I had said something, but the hon. Member was not here. I said that we must have a relative price support for everything and therefore, we have to find out that the cane prices are not too high for the alternative crops. Otherwise, those crops would disappear and everybody will grow cane and then he will have to burn his cane or sell *gur* at a ridiculously low price. Some people from the area, where the hon. Member has got his own cultivation, in 1952, had to sell their *gur* at Rs. 5-8-0 per maund because there was more cultivation of cane than people can consume. This was not the first time in U.P. and Bihar such a situation arose. Whenever you have got a very high price for cane and the prices of alternative crops are low, this thing happens. I once cited here a case wherein—I think it was in 1948 or 1949—the Government fixed Rs. 2 per maund for cane prices, but the startling thing was that the cane area did not go up but came down the next year, because the price of wheat and rice, the alternative crops, in the black market was very high. Therefore, prices can only be comparative and competitive. You cannot have a high price for one commodity and low price for another commodity. The other day some friends from Bihar said that in flood areas, the cane crop has been damaged and, thereore, Government should pay some compensation. Why that compensation should not be paid for paddy-grower I do not understand. Because cane gets higher profits, whenever they suffer a loss, it should be a higher loss. But the Government treat both the paddy-grower and the cane-grower on the same footing and it cannot assure profit to the cane-grower while the paddy grower is suffering a loss.

**Shri Gadgil** (Poona Central): Will the Government fix the price for cane taking into account the cost of its production?

**Shri Kidwai:** I think it is very difficult for people who generally sit in the House to find out the cost of production. The other day I said that a State Government appointed a committee to find out the cost of production of wheat. After three years' working, it arrived at the conclusion that the cost of production of wheat was Rs. 80. The Government was so shocked by this that they did not proceed with the work. I saw the Tariff Board report where they work out the cost of production of *gur*. They arrived at a figure which, having come from a cane-producing family, I thought was too high. I made enquiries in Meerut, which is the main *gur* producing area, and they said that it is more than double what they actually spend.

**Shri Gadgil:** If you want to control the prices of sugarcane, then you must work on certain principles. If you find it is very difficult, then leave it free absolutely and do not control it at all.

**Shri Kidwai:** I joined the agitation in 1932-33, which forced the Government to pay the cane-growers because the millowners took advantage of the helplessness of the cane-growers. When the cane-growers took their cane to the gates of the mill, the millowners said "We do not want it", and they paid one anna or two annas per

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maund. Otherwise, I would have accepted the hon. Member's suggestion. So, we have to compare the prices of the alternative crops and see that the agriculturist does not get much more than what the alternative crops would allow.

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## MOTIONS RE: SERVICE RULES

**Mr. Chairman:** We will now proceed to the motions about the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, the Indian Police Service (Recruitment) Rules and the All India Services (Conduct) Rules.

**Shri V. P. Nayar** (Chirayinkil): Sir, I beg to move:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, be repealed.

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said Resolution."

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion moved:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, be repealed.

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said Resolution."

**Shri Raghuramaiah** (Tenali): Sir, I beg to move:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, the following new clause be added after clause (b) of sub-rule (1) of Rule 4 of the Indian administrative Service (recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table of the House on the 10th September, 1954, namely:

'(bb) by selection, in special cases from among members of the Central Secretariat Service:'

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion moved:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, the following new clause be added after clause (b) of sub-rule (1) of Rule 4 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules 1954, laid on the table of the House on the 10th September, 1954, amely:

'(bb) by selection, in special cases from among members of the Central Secretariat Service:'

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Shrimati Jayashri** (Bombay—Suburban): Sir, I beg to move:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, sub-rule (3) of Rule 5 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, be omitted.

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion moved:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services

Act, 1951, sub-rule (3) of Rule 5 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, be omitted.

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Shri Thimmaiah** (Kolar—Reserved —Sch. Castes): Sir, I beg to move:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951, for sub-rule (4) of Rule 7 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, the following sub-rule be substituted, namely:

'(4) The number of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes shall be filled by the best candidates selected from among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and if the selected candidates are not up to the general level, they shall be trained and absorbed in the Service.'

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Mr. Chairman**: Motion moved:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951, for sub-rule (4) of Rule 7 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, the following sub-rule be substituted, namely:

'(4) The number of vacancies reserved for the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes shall be filled by the best candidates selected from among the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and if the selected candidates are not up to the general level, they shall be trained and absorbed in the Service.'

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Shri Thimmaiah**: Sir, I beg to move:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951, the following new sub-rule be added after sub-rule (2) of Rule 8 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, namely:

'(2A) The regulations made under sub-rule (1) shall provide for the reservation in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to the extent of 12½ per cent. and 5 per cent. respectively of the number of vacancies to be filled by promotion from amongst the members of a State Civil Service.'

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Mr. Chairman**: Motion moved:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951, the following new sub-rule be added after sub-rule (2) of Rule 8 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, namely:

'(2A) The regulations made under sub-rule (1) shall provide for the reservation in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes to the extent of 12½ per cent. and 5 per cent. respectively of the number of vacancies to be filled by promotion from amongst the members of a State Civil Service.'

The House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution.'

**Shrimati Jayashri:** Sir, I beg to move:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951, sub-rule (3) of Rule 5 of the Indian Police Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954 laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954 be omitted.

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion moved:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951, sub-rule (3) of Rule 5 of the Indian Police Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954 laid on the table on the 10th september, 1954 be omitted.

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Shri Thimmaiah:** Sir, I beg to move:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951, the following new sub-rule be added after sub-rude (2) of Rule 12 of the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, namely:

'(3) No member of the Service shall use his influence while in service to secure employment for himself after retirement.'

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

**Mr. Chairman:** Motion moved:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All-India Services Act, 1951, the following new sub-rule be added after sub-rule (2) of Rule 12 of the All India Services (Conduct) Rules, 1954, laid on the table on the 10th September, 1954, namely:

'(3) No member of the Service shall use his influence while in service to secure employment for himself after retirement.'

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

Two and a half hours have been allotted for this discussion. There are, in all, four or five motions. I should think half an hour to each may do: or one hour may be devoted to 5, 6, 7 and 10 and the rest three may be finished in a period of one hour and a half. As several Members are anxious to speak, I propose to give ten minutes to each Member.

**Shrimati Sushama Sen** (Bhagalpur South): I suggest that women Members should be given more time.

**Mr. Chairman:** The Chair cannot discriminate between the women Members and men Members in this matter.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The motion which I have today moved was the subject of discussion in the Rajya Sabha on the 24th of this month. On that occasion it created history in that many women Members belonging to the various parties voted against Government. In the reply of the Home Minister to that debate I was amazed when I found that he had such a wonderful storehouse of nonsense and frivolity at his disposal, that he could meet any situation.

Sir, I also found that in justifying the stand which he had taken against the women of the country, he invoked the aid of four sentences which he read out from a private letter said to have been written by the late

Sardar Patel. We, Sir, in this particular context, are not interested to know what Sardar Patel might have written in his private correspondence. We want to know the facts.

To understand the attitude of Government in this particular matter one must go back to the history of this Act which forms the basis of these rules. You will find, Sir, that in 1950 the All India Services Bill was discussed in the Parliament when Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, who happened to be the then Home Minister, said:

> "As soon as Parliament meets again, whether it is in this April, or the next April, it is going to have greater authority in dealing with this matter. The Rules will be scrutinised by it and passed by it. Therefore, hon. Members may rest content that no wrong will be done by way of this."

Sir, at that time Mr. C. Rajagopalachari gave an assurance to the House that in the next session, very detailed rules for the conduct of the Services will be brought before the House. But nothing had been done during the last eight sessions. Now, Government come forward and say: "Here are the rules." We know that whenever there is great pressure on this House, Government come forward and lay copies of the rules on the Table and try to get away with that. But we are fortunate that we are having a discussion here.

Sir, I went through all the rules and I find that this is nothing but a set of very wicked rules, each of them unconstitutional and some of them very very reactionary. I shall begin with Rule 4 in which provision is made for the selection of IAS Officers, either by recruitment or by promotion or from State Civil Service, or by selection in special cases from among persons other than members of the Civil Service. Sir, on the 6th of March this Year, I put a question to the Deputy Home Minister, who is fortunately here, whether he knew how many private secretaries to Ministers were taken in the Civil Service from the State of Travancore-Cochin. The Deputy Home Minister, poor man, said: "I do not know."

**The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shri Datar):** On a point of order, now he has to speak only on the points with regard to his own motion; he cannot make general comments on all the rules.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The Deputy Minister is very much mistaken, because my motion is for the repeal of all the rules. Has he not seen that before? I shall send him a copy.

My point is this. When I confronted the Deputy Home Minister on the 6th of March with a supplementary question he said that he did not know whether there were newspaper reports and editorials against the selection of officers from the regular cadres of the State Service into the IAS Cadre from the Travancore-Cochin State. I know, Sir, each and every man who has been selected from the Travancore-Cochin Service and I know also that 50 per cent. of such persons have been working as private secretaries. We are not prepared to give Government this authority under which they can get in through the backdoor every sort of favourite and they can indulge in the utmost graft. I do not want to go into details. But Government have not brought forward any case by which we can give them vast powers.

**Shri A. M. Thomas** (Ernakulam): Does the hon. Member know what positions they were occupying before they became private secretaries?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I know: I was working with most of them in the Secretariat. Some of them have taken training under me.

I also wish to invite the attention of the House to sub-rules (2) and (3) of Rule 5. Under this rule no person who has more than one wife living shall be eligible for appointment to service. What happens, I

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want to ask the Home Minister, whom I find here now, to those officers who have had two wives and who are in his own Ministry. I know actually the case of officers in the Home Ministry. What action is the Home Minister taking in respect of persons whose first wives have protested to him that their husbands are getting into second marriage? I saw in the Central Hall some ladies making representations to the Home Minister. I leave Dr. Katju to the wrath of our women Members here. But I want to say that these rules here are very treacherous, to say the least. Dr. Katju seems to be thinking in terms of the time when he became a lawyer; perhaps, he does not see that the world has changed. We know that in other countries we have not only women in such important positions, but we have women engineers; they have women doctors in very large numbers: they have women sailors and women pilots. But according to Dr. Katju the only object of having the Indian Administrative Service is to order firing. He would say, as a moralist, that women should first attend upon their children. He says: Suppose there is a sudden emergency, suppose there are *tazias*.... (*An hon. Member*: *Tazias*?) That is the word which he used, whatever it is, *tazias*. He said: "Just consider this. There is a woman District Magistrate. Imagine there is a sudden emergency—*tazias*—all sorts of things. She has got a little baby. Is she going to carry the baby, there? There are four lady Members here" and all that. According to Dr. Katju the only thing such an officer has to do is only to order firing or to control a crowd.

I know from my experience in my State that there have been women in very responsible positions. We had a woman Surgeon-General ten or fifteen years back. She had children. One of her boys is in the Indian Foreign Service. He grew up in spite of the fact that she attended to every case, and she was one of our very best doctors.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene** (Trivandrum): She had more than one child.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** She had two. And another is a very eminent doctor in Delhi. I do not find any justification why women should be asked to choose between marriage and government service. We have to give them the rights which they deserve. We have also to encourage them to get into such competitive services. But Dr. Katju at this time would come and say "Look here, women have children, they must first mind about their children".

I also found, when I was reading, that Dr. Katju in a very hilarious mood, instead of placing the letter of Sardar Patel on the Table, said he would place the book *Life of Johnson* by Boswell.

**The Minister of Home Affairs and States (Dr. Katju):** Sir, is my friend in order in criticising me for a speech which I have not made here?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I have a ruling that it is possible. It has been ruled.

**Mr. Chairman:** The general rule is that any speeches made there cannot be quoted here.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I have obtained a ruling that a speech made by any Minister in either House can be referred to and commented upon in this House.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy** (Mysore): There was a ruling on my point of order.

**Mr. Chairman:** Will the hon. Member refer me to the rule or ruling?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I never said rule.

**Shri M. S. Gurupadaswamy:** On Saturday there was a ruling on my point of order whether a Member can quote the speech of a Minister

in the other House, and the ruling was that he can.

**Mr. Chairman:** So far as statements of hon. Ministers are concerned they may relate to two kinds of things, to statements of policy or to other statements. So far as statements of policy are concerned it is quite clear that they can be referred to in the other House. But so far as the other parts of the speech are concerned, I think the same privilege should attach to a Minister as attaches to other Members. I would like to be enlightened about the ruling.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** May I submit that during the general discussion of the Budget, when I was referring to the speech made by Shri C. D. Deshmukh in the other House and commenting upon it, some Member of the Congress Party rose on a point of order, and the Chair then ruled that I could even comment on the speech made by a Minister but not by any Member of that House.

**Mr. Chairman:** May I enquire whether that speech referred to a matter of policy?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** It did. Only day before yesterday it was said.

**Mr. Chairman:** Here is Rule 321. It runs as follows:

> "No speech made in the Council shall be quoted in the House unless it is a definite statement of policy by a Minister:
>
> Provided that the speaker may on a request being made to him in advance give permission to a member to quote a speech or make reference to the proceedings in the Council if the Speaker thinks that such a course is necessary in order to enable the member to develop a point of privilege or procedure."

Here the proviso does not apply. So far as rule 321 is concerned, unless it is a definite statement of policy by a Minister, a reference to his speech cannot be made.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I hold it was a definite statement of policy that they are not going to reconsider the rules. After the discussion, which raised there all aspects on these rules, the Home Minister got up and in his reply said: the Government of India cannot consider this question because of this, because of this, etc.

Anyhow I do not wish to quote him again. I shall give some other quotations instead. He is smiling and I am reminded of a quotation from Thomas Fuller:

> "He who blushes not at his crime but adds shamelessness to shame has nothing left to restore him to virtue."

I want the hon. Minister to tell me...

**Shri D. C. Sharma** (Hoshiarpur): What is the relevance of this quotation?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I want the Home Minister to tell me what are the facts, what are the circumstances which made him give this rule.

Sir, I do not wish to take more time of the House. I shall go to another rule. Sub-rule (3) of rule 5 will be safe in the hands of the women Members of the House and I am sure they will very stoutly defend their cause.

There is also another rule, rule 8, which runs thus:

> "The State Government may make provision for recruiting Service persons by promotion from members of the State Services, etc."

The less said about it the better. Let the hon. Minister come with the facts and figures and let him say "this is the thing we have done, these officers are necessary." By all these rules the Home Ministry wants to assume powers which the House is not prepared to part with. The House should give a mandate that he

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should not come forward in a trifling manner and lay on the Table rules which were promised by his predecessors to be laid on the Table three or four years back.

I would end up by requesting every hon. Member of the House to raise his or her voice of protest on these most obnoxious rules. I would also say it prompts me, the way in which Dr. Katju has been speaking in a very derisive manner in the other House and the way in which he smiles at me, it prompts me to make an observation. I know that, as Goldsmith said once, "Villainy, when detected, never gives up, but boldly adds impudence to imposture".

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member cannot improve his speech by referring to sentences and quotations in which nothing but vituperation is there. So far as this aspect is concerned, his case will improve if he uses moderate language. This kind of language is not the language appropriate in an Indian House of Parliament.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I can use very moderate language.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy** (Salem): May I ask...

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I am not yielding.

**Shri S. V. Ramaswamy:** It is a point of order. Should not reference to Ministers by their personal names be avoided as that will add to the dignity of the House?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I will only conclude by saying that this House must take very serious notice of this. It is not the first experience we have had from this hon. Minister. We have had from him the Preventive Detention Act, the Press (Objectionable Matter) Bill and ever so many other Bills, and it is time we try...

**Mr. Chairman:** Why should he be personal and refer so many times to Dr. Katju? After all, the rules are being discussed, not Dr. Katju.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** The rules are being discussed, and Dr. Katju is the father of these rules.

**Mr. Chairman:** Should all the sins, acts of commission and omission, now come before the House?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I do not understand why they should not rest with the Minister who is responsible.

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member has already referred to them. What is the use of pressing them so hard?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** I do not want to carry on the controversy. I would only urge upon all sections of the House that they join us in throwing this rule out.

**The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs and Defence (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru):** I feel a little confused after the hon. Member's speech. I have got the impression that he was himself rather confused. In his desire, somehow to bring in some quotations into his speech, which were not particularly relevant to the occasion, he lost, at any rate to my understanding, the thread of his argument.

I am not quite sure what he was driving at. Is he driving at the whole repeal or non-acceptance of this book of rules or any particular rule or section? However, I propose to deal with only one or two matters in these rules.

I do not know all the rules which exist today, nor the other rules. I have not gone into them because most of them are normal rules which have been carried on. If any of them have to be changed, they can be changed. There is no sanctity of statute attaching to these rules. Any rule, whenever this House feels like or the Government feels like, can be changed.

The hon. Member referred to one rule which I believe is to the effect that a person having two wives will not be employed. He asked, what is going to happen to those who already have two wives. All I can say is, they will continue to have two wives. They will not be allowed to have a third wife. Because, the rule, much as I would like it to be, is not retrospective. In fact, this rule has been brought in because some people went in for a second wife and we found, much to our distress, that we could not restrain them from doing so, or even take any action in accordance with our Service rules. Therefore, the rule has now been brought in for the first time. Previously, it was meant to be a convention to be followed. But, conventions are broken. Because we got into that difficulty, we have brought in that rule. Does the hon. Member want that rule to be abrogated, leaving government servants free to take two, three or more wives?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** It must be applied with retrospective effect.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** That is entirely another matter. He is at the present moment dealing with these rules.

**Mr. Chairman:** He shall not be 'eligible for appointment'. It does not mean that he loses his appointment.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** If a person who has been appointed, subsequently marries a second time, he will be dismissed. All I can say is, his grievance, therefore, is not against this rule, but against something else. If he wants action to be taken against previous bigamists or polygamists, that is a matter to be considered separately, because that is a matter of giving not retrospective effect to this, but rather taking some action which the previous rules did not justify us in doing although we liked to take. Anyhow, that is a separate matter.

The other matter which was referred to is this. The rule says:

> "No married woman shall be entitled as of right to be appointed to the Service, (that is, to the Administrative Service) and where any woman appointed to the Service subsequently marries, the Central Government may, if the maintenance of efficiency of the Service so requires, call upon her to resign."

I should like the House to consider first of all that this is a permissive clause. It does not automatically follow. It is possible, of course, for this permissive clause to be applied strictly or leniently. Much depends, of course, on the authority applying. This matter was faced by me, particularly, in regard to Foreign Service. I think, even in this House on one or two occasions, 4 or 5 years ago, and certainly elsewhere, I laid great stress on equality of opportunity being given in the Services to women. That is, that there should be no sex barrier to the appointment of women to almost any post. I can imagine some posts to which women would normally be unsuited. That is a different matter. I can imagine posts to which men would be normally not suited. But, there are men who certainly may be suited for women's occupations and women who certainly are suited for all occupations. Therefore, one should not put a barrier either way.

The difficulty that arose, particularly in the Foreign Service, was this. We have been taking regularly women into the Foreign Service through the normal door of competitive examination. They pass and they pass well. We take them in. They have done good work. After three or four years of work, they marry. We have continued them. By the mere fact of marriage they have not gone out. But, we had to consider all the time this question whether we can post the husband in one place and the wife in another place

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separated by 10,000 miles. That is our difficulty. Normally, one does not want to bring about social disruption in this way. Therefore, one had to choose as things are at present. He need not consider this in theory. As things are at present, one has to choose, not at the time of marriage, but at the time of subsequent postings, and decide what to do: whether we should ask the husband to get away from service or we should ask the wife to get away so that we may not be put in the predicament of having to post one in Japan and the other, may be, in Paris or somewhere.

**Acharya Kripalani** (Bhagalpur *cum* Purnea): The husband may have no job.

**Shri Jawaharlal Nehru:** The husband may have no job as many husbands have not got jobs. But, that was the real difficulty. Therefore, what we did was to put in a permissive clause that a woman member of the Foreign Service who marries, may be asked, if we so chose, to resign from service. We will keep her so long as we can. Where actually the fact of her marriage conflicts with her posting, it is unfair for Government to be forced to keep her on even though it comes in the way of normal postings. This rule can be interpreted in a lenient way or in a harsh way. In the case of an officer, the mere fact of marriage may be considered to be a bar. I do not think that the mere fact of marriage is a bar. The consequences of marriage, especially in the way of postings, may become a bar. It may be a completely different thing, elsewhere: in the Foreign Service, the difficulty is all the greater. The husband or the wife may be sent 10,000 miles away. It may be a different thing where they live in the same city, for instance. There need be no reason at all why marriage should come in the way. They can work.

This, presumably, refers to the Administrative Service. Take the other Services. Take the Educational Service in which, I think, normally speaking, a woman is a better person than a man as a teacher. I would go a step further and say, a married woman is a better teacher than an unmarried woman, often enough. I do not rule out unmarried women, of course. A married woman may well be a better teacher than an unmarried woman. It would be completely wrong, because of the marriage, to remove her from her post. My point is this. In these matters we should entirely rule out any kind of ban not only on the employment of a person of a particular sex but even ban on the fact of marriage. But we cannot, in the circumstances, rule out the consequences of marriage—apart from another fact, the suitability of a man or woman for a particular type of service. Therefore, some rules have to be framed which are permissive, which allow adjustments or some things to happen. Those rules, I said, have no so-called statutory authority. The rules may be better worded, you may word them better, but it would be, I think, wrong in the existing circumstances for us to lay down a firm and fast rule that every person who is married must inevitably continue, whatever the consequences of marriage may be. We will get into difficulties.

As it is, as the House well knows, our service rules are terribly rigid. I do not know of any country where they are so rigid, we cannot deal with the public servant except through very complicated processes, ultimately going up to the Union Public Service Commission and all that. We cannot even take action normally when we feel that the person concerned is not very efficient or has committed some petty misdemeanour. You may be convinced, but you cannot take any action. They are very rigid. The protection to our services is greater so far as I know than in any country in the wide world.

Now, it is because of that this difficulty arises. Suppose they are not there, no difficulty would arise. We will deal with the case as it arises. Because that tremendous protection is given, if we give that same tremendous protection to the woman, but later she marries, we cannot deal with her. We have to keep her whether we can use her in a proper way or not. Therefore, some such thing had to be laid down which means, so far as I am concerned, absolutely no discrimination as such against a woman or a man.

I am prepared to consider now or later perhaps a better wording of this which the House may suggest. In fact, this is a matter on which I do not think there is any basic difference of opinion. I am not speaking for every hon. Member present here, but by and large I think there is no difference of opinion in this House, on that side or this side or any side. There may be perhaps difference in stress, in explanation, in elucidation. If the present wording is not adequate, we are perfectly prepared to consider, in consultation with others, what would be an adequate wording, later. I am perfectly prepared to consider that either in this House, if the House so wishes it, but probably it is much more convenient to consider it— it is a question of language, wording only—outside the House informally at a later stage, and I can assure the House that if a suitable wording is found, we shall change it. There is no difficulty about changing the wording. But the basic thing has to be met. I do submit that we cannot be tied down by our rigid and hard service rules as they are in matters of this kind because they will raise difficulties.

That is all I wish to submit to the House. I am not speaking about other rules. I do not know much about them, but about this particular matter I have ventured to intervene because I attach great value, great importance to women having equality of opportunity, subject to certain inevitable matters in Services, in professions and the like.

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Hon. Members will forgive my saying so—perhaps most of them—but it is my firm conviction, and I am speaking not lightly, but in all seriousness, that the women of India are of magnificent stuff. I want to be quite clear that I am not talking in the terms of, shall I say, our traditional heroines, good as they are: I am talking in terms of the life and work of today. They can do the job, and any job, I think. May be they cannot do some very heavy physical jobs and the rest. That is a different matter. But they can be excellent engineers, excellent doctors, excellent lawyers, excellent teachers, excellent civil servants. Any job I am sure they can do. It is true that if you suddenly asked me to, let us say, take in large numbers of women in our Army, well, for the moment, I would be taken aback. Logically I might not be able to give an answer, but the fact is, conditions being what they are in the country, other factors—physical endurance and this and that—probably come in the way. Not that I have any basic objection to that. Those things come in the way. And ultimately, it is a question really of our not doing something which, well, is wrong, ignoring, shall I say, completely facts as they are, the facts of social life in our country. I do not want to be tied down to certain old social customs which are out-of-date. It is not that I am referring to. But, if I may venture to say so, today we may talk tall here in this House or elsewhere, as I often do, but the fact is that a woman when she comes to public life has to face enormous difficulties—and that is not the fault of the women, but it is the fault of the man. That is a point of remember. She has to deal with all kinds of gossips, insinuations. If she is tough enough, well, she survives, or, she succumbs; she retires from that life to some haven where this kind of allegation cannot be made easily. That is the real difficulty, not the hard rules that you make or do not make; and it is against that that I would venture to ask all hon. Members here and other people to put themselves against, to prevent this kind of thing

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in our public life, in our professional life, in our scientific and technical life. In our scientific field, we have some brilliant young women and girls working in our national laboratories. So, I venture to say that the real struggle we have to face in this matter—and we have to fight many battles in order to get women's privileges recognized fully—is not by legislation (legislation is good enough, make it better if you like) but really in our social life.

**Shri Thimmaiah:** I welcome these rules generally. To have a stable and progressive Government, the administrative machinery must be efficient and it should be above politics and above party influence and above any individual influence. These rules regulate not only the official life of an officer, but also to some extent, the private life of an officer, so far as they affect the prestige of his position. I feel the administrative machinery must always be in tact and it must be guided by certain rules and regulations and it must have a sort of discipline which is conducive to the quick disposal of the Government's business, and the administration must be made progressive.

I have tabled some amendments about the reservation of appointments for the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes. The reservation order was promulgated, rather issued, by the Home Ministry some years back, but the reservation as it stands has not achieved the desired result. There are reservations for 12½ per cent. of the posts for the Scheduled Caste people, and even today on no occasion this 12½ per cent. is given to the Scheduled Caste candidates. I can understand the difficulties of the Government. There may not be adequate number of candidates available at a time when the examination is held. But there are instances where the adequate number of candidates are available, but they are declared to be unsuitable. The word "unsuitable" used by the Public Services Commission and the Government I cannot understand. It has no clear meaning. It is quite vague. If you test a Scheduled Caste candidate along with others you cannot expect him to come up to the general level. I request the hon. Minister to understand the background in which this reservation order is passed. What is the purpose of reservation? What is the object of this reservation? Because the Scheduled Caste candidates are brought up in such an atmosphere, in such unfortunate circumstances, that they cannot acquire so much knowledge, that they cannot read so much of books because of their bad circumstances, and naturally they cannot compete with the general candidates and score such marks as the other candidates score, and naturally, they cannot come up to the general level. I do not mean to say that the general level must be brought down, and that the inefficient candidates must be taken into the administration. But my object is this. Have Government taken any steps to see that the Scheduled Caste candidates come up to the general level? There might be a reservation order, but that reservation order has not achieved the desired results. Therefore, my appeal to the hon. Home Minister is that he should train the Scheduled Castes in a particular branch of administration and absorb them, or if he cannot do so, I would request him, whenever the selection of candidates is made for government posts, to select the best among the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe candidates. After selecting the best among them, it is possible for Government to train them and absorb them in the service. This is a suggestion which I am humbly putting forth before the hon. Home Minister for his consideration, and I hope he will implement it.

The reason why I am saying this is as follows. If you go on putting this order in the book, and go on saying that no suitable candidate is available, and therefore all the vacancies are treated as unreserved,

if you go on doing like this, I do not think, even for centuries, we could get our quota of 12½ per cent. fulfilled at any time in any year. This is a very practical suggestion that I am putting before this House and the hon. Home Minister.

Next, I come to recruitment through promotion from the State Civil Service. I would request the hon. Minister to remember that whenever a candidate is appointed to the State Civil Service, he is tested first, and only if he is considered to be fit, he is appointed. Therefore, when you make a promotion from the State Services, I do not think any further test is necessary. As it is, I find that the reservation order does not apply to these cases. I would request the hon. Minister to apply the reservation order even in these cases. It is easy for them to get the trained candidates, who are proper and suitable, because they are already in the State Services, and they are sufficiently equipped with experience and knowledge, to be better qualified for promotion. Even there, if you say that he is not suitable or is not up to the general level, I cannot understand what is meant by general level, or what is meant by merit or efficiency.

For instance, some time back, officers to the I.A.S. from the State Services were nominated but no Scheduled Caste officer is there, to the credit of our Government, in the I.A.S. or the I.P.S. When these nominations were made, the contemporaries of the Scheduled Caste officers were nominated, whereas the Scheduled Caste officers who had put in the same number of years, and who had joined on the same day as the others, could not be nominated on the ground that they were not up to the general level or that they were not merited in the consideration of the Union Public Service Commission. With this sort of attitude of Government, I do not think it is possible for the Scheduled Caste candidates ever to come up and have an adequate representation in the administrative machinery. I would, therefore, request the hon. Home Minister to consider this reservation order in all its aspects, so that the desired results might be achieved.

There is one other point which I would like to touch upon, before I conclude. There is a rule here which says:

> "No Member of the Service shall bring, or attempt to bring, any political or other outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interest in respect of matters pertaining to his state service."

This is a very good rule, I admit, and I should not want to change it. But I want to make one submission in this regard. There are officers who tease the Scheduled Caste officers unnecessary simply on the ground that they happen to be Scheduled Caste officers. I know of cases of officers who purposely deny due promotion to the Scheduled Caste officers, or ignore their efficiency and write badly in the service records of the Scheduled Caste officers. I do not blame all officers. Many of the officers were very sympathetic to us, but there are certain officers like this also. The whole world cannot be as sincere as our Home Minister; there may be, and in fact, there are some bad officers. So, I would submit that whenever a Scheduled Caste officer is unduly denied his promotion, or his efficiency is ignored, then the Members of Parliament or the State Legislatures have to interfere to come and tell you, there is a case where a Scheduled Caste officer has been meted out injustice. But according to this rule, the Scheduled Caste officer will be put into trouble, if any Member of Parliament or a State Legislature approaches on his behalf. I would request the hon. Member to bear in mind that whenever Scheduled Caste officers are meted out injustice, and whenever we happen to represent such things, these officers will not be affected by this rule. I would request the hon. Minister to see that this rule is construed or

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interpreted liberally, so far as the Scheduled Caste officers are concerned.

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** My motion is very limited in its scope. It relates to the omission of a certain category of government servants from promotion to the I.A.S. I am quite sure and confident that had the attention of the hon. Home Minister been drawn to it, this omission would not have occurred. I would request the Home Minister to seriously consider whether this omission is really justified, and whether it does not work a great hardship. I am making an appeal to him in the name of this small category of Government servants who are at the moment voiceless.

I am referring to rule 4, which relates to recruitment by various methods to the I.A.S. One is competitive examination, another is promotion of members of the State Civil Service, and thirdly selection in special cases from among persons other than members of a State Civil Service serving in connection with the affairs of a State. Prior to the constitution of the I.A.S., prior to Independence there used to be two methods of recruitment to the Indian Civil Service, one by competition, and another by means of appointment to what are called listed posts. The listed post holders were recruited from among the State Civil servants, mostly or wholly from among people who had experience of the revenue administration. Subsequently, the I.A.S. having been formed, the Government of India was good enough to consider the claims of the vast majority of other government servants, and include in the category of persons entitled to promotion also government servants employed in the State, not necessarily in the Revenue Department. All that I am asking now is that this indulgence shown to government servants outside the Revenue Department in the States should be also shown to government servants here in the Central Secretariat. I might tell the House that there have been very many brilliant people outside the ranks of the I.A.S., as for instance, some of our Deputy Secretaries who are, unfortunately, as matters now stand, condemned to be eternally Deputy Secretaries. I have known personally many of them, and they are doing their jobs excellently. While in the case of an Assistant Secretary of a State Secretariat, you are now giving power to recruit him into the I.A.S., you are depriving a Deputy Secretary of the Government of India of the same opportunity.

After all, when you say, persons other than members of the State Civil Service, any person in a State service will become eligible for promotion to the Indian Administrative Service. May be he is a Boiler Inspector, may be he is an Engineer, may be he is merely an Assistant Secretary in a provincial secretariat; he will be entitled, by virtue of this rule, provided of course the State Government thinks that he is fit enough and provided the Government of India approve of the selection, to come into the ranks of the Indian Administrative Service. I would like the Home Minister most earnestly to consider why the same privilege, the same advantage and the same opportunity should not be given to a member of the Central Secretariat Service—an able Under-Secretary or an able Deputy Secretary. One argument which might perhaps be advanced is that these people have no actual district experience. But in the case of State servants, I find no such requirement in the rules. As I said, even an Assistant Secretary in a provincial secretariat, although he would have had no district experience, would be entitled, under this rule, for recruitment into the Indian Administrative Service. By what logic can we deny the same opportunity to an Under-Secretary or a Deputy Secretary now working in the Central Secretariat.

I know personally of cases where persons without even the least practical experience in the districts have been

posted even as Secretaries of State Governments. There has been patronage going on. But I am not asking that that should be made a rule. I certainly agree that some amount of practical district experience may be necessary for persons recruited to the Indian Administrative Service, but what I do affirm and most earnestly request the Home Minister to remember is that there should not be any distinction made between a State civil servant and a Central civil servant in this regard. As far as that experience is concerned, are there not cases where persons working in the Central Secretariat have been sent out to the mofussil for revenue training. If practical experience in the district is necessary—and I do agree that it may be necessary—will it be impossible for the Government to send such of those who by their brilliance make themselves qualified for recruitment to the Indian Administrative Service for a little training in the districts? Is it impossible? The case is so clear for the inclusion of this category of Central Secretariat servants, that all I can say is that the matter was not properly placed before the Home Minister—in the manner it should have been put.

My object in making this motion is only that the Home Minister should bring his personal attention to bear on this subject, consider the hardship, the injustice, the unfairness that will work out on this particular category of government servants and place them on the same footing at least as those civil servants from the States who are not now in the revenue department. This is, after all, so obvious a case. It must strike any person who reads this rule that something has been left out. I am really surprised that this matter has not been brought to the notice of the Home Minister. I do not want to say anything more than that. Now that the matter has been brought to his notice, I hope he will see that justice is done to these deserving people in the Secretariat.

**Mr. Chairman:** Before I call any other Member, I may make it clear to the House that the time allotted for discussion of these motions was 2½ hours. According to the time-table, this discussion should close at 5-30 P.M. Now, at least half an hour will be taken by the hon. Minister and the hon. Deputy Minister for Home Affairs. That means I will not be able to accomodate as many speakers as I would like to. Under these circumstances, I would just take the sense of the House. If they want to prolong the debate, I have no objection; we can have half an hour more so that more speakers may get time.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** Those of us who have signed the motion may be given at least five or ten minutes each to speak.

**Mr. Chairman:** I want that as many Members as possible may take part in this debate. So many lady Members have sent chits to me. I do not want to discriminate; I want that every lady Member may get a chance. But my difficulty is that the time is so short that I will not be able to accommodate them all. Therefore, I desire that the House agrees to prolong the discussion by half an hour.

**Some Hon. Members:** Yes.

**Sardar A. S. Saigal** (Bilaspur): Up to 6 P.M.

**Mr. Chairman:** But then there is another discussion for half an hour.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani** (New Delhi): Tomorrow.

**Mr. Chairman:** I do not want that the hon. Member, Mr. H. N. Mukerjee, should be deprived of the right to discuss the matter. At the same time, I would make it clear to the House that if there is no quorum, I will not get the count made. I must see that the whole thing is finished and he should not be deprived of his right by the fact that many Members agree to prolong the debate and then run away as soon as discussion on these motions finishes. I would, therefore, request hon. Members to kindly continue sitting and finish the business of the House, or I shall not count the Members at the time when this is discussed.

[Mr. Chairman]

Now, Shrimati Khongmen. I would also make a request to Members to kindly take as little time as possible.

**Shrimati Khongmen** (Autonomous Distts.—Reserved—Sch. Tribes): I fully realise the very heavy responsibility that rests on the able and strong shoulders of the hon. the Home Minister. He has to see that the services of this country must be run efficiently, sufficiently and expeditiously, if she has to progress and if she has to prosper. I can understand his anxiety to have the best of talents in the administration of the country, and in shaping its destiny. He, therefore, needs necessarily to proceed cautiously, methodically and firmly. But with all respect to his age, wisdom and experience, I cannot appreciate the way he wants to execute his decision.

The motion has already been moved by Shrimati Jayashri Raiji and it was already read by the hon. the Prime Minister. So I am not going to read it again. Fortunately or unfortunately, we have given a Constitution to ourselves and it is my earnest belief that all its provisions, as laid down therein, must be carried out without any fear or favour. Why then this discrimination made between man and woman? Appointment to the IAS is made after careful selection, and after all, the candidates pass the competitive examination. Why should then there be a bar for married women to enter such service if found suitable for the post? I could not think of a more absurd provision than this. I think it is ridiculous to say that a woman, when married and has children, should cease to be efficient. On the contrary, it is expected that a woman, when married, would gain more experience and would be more conscious of her duties and respossibilities.

The other day in the other House the hon. Home Minister was pleased to say that the first duty of a mother was to look after her child.

**Dr. Katju:** Am I wrong?

**Shrimati Khongmen:** No, and I entirely agree with him, but she need not neglect other duties on account of that. I thank him for his sympathetic consideration shown to women. But shall I tell him that as a mother, I feel it not only a duty but a pleasure and a privilege to bring up children?

**Dr. Katju:** I would like hon. Members to listen to my hon. friend.

4 P.M.

**Shrimati Khongmen:** I think I express a view of all my sisters here in this House and outside. Therefore, she wants to toil, to earn their bread, to educate them to the best of her abilities. So why must such rules and regulations stand in her way? I do expect encouragement and support from him to help open wide the door for women to enter service in IAS or otherwise. I am extremely sorry to say that I cannot accept the advice given by him to my sisters in the other House. I want no sermons on the art of homemaking and child rearing from the hon. Home Minister. Such monopoly may best be left to women themselves. I dare say with all humility that women are no less conscious of their duties and responsibilities entrusted to them than men. When duty called they never lagged behind. When we were summoned by the President according to the provisions in our Constitution, in responding to the call, some of us with babes in arms travelled thousands of miles in not too comfortable second class compartments in coming to this august House. The hon. Minister may say that the case of the Members of Parliament is different. If that be so may I tell him that during the freedom movement, expectant mothers and mothers with new-born babes went to jail and suffered along with men. Was the Home Minister then there to give advice, may I ask What happened to the children of those women? Of course, I do not expect to get a proper answer from the hon. Minister. Instances of women of ability, ability to suffer, to serve

and to render all kinds of services under the most difficult circumstances are too numerous and I do not intend to mention them here.

Here, by this provision, you are going deprive them of the honour of serving the country, to earn the bread for the children, and to supplement the family income. Have we no right to enter such services? I cannot understand what is put here in this provision. Is there a more absurd thing than this to think that a woman found to be efficient in service should, suddenly, cease to be efficient the moment she gets married? This, I feel, is an insult to womanhood. It cannot be true. I have every faith in the efficiency and ability of our women. I therefore appeal and request the hon. Home Minister, with all the emphasis at my command, to revise this Rule. Yesterday, the Deputy-Speaker was pleased to say that he, the Home Minister, possesses a warm heart and, in his own words, he is in the habit of reviewing and revising his own mind in many matters.

I am really thankful for the high tributes paid to women by the hon. Prime Minister. I wish with all my heart that the hon. Home Minister shares his views. I really find in him the only friend and leader who really understands men as well as women. I, therefore, trust that he will use his influence in this matter and make necessary changes he thinks best suited to the interests of women.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Mr. Chairman, the motion moved by Shrimati Jayashri Raiji seeks the deletion of sub-rule (3) of Rule 5 of the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules and the Indian Police Service (Recruitment) Rules. I consider this sub-rule as highly discriminatory against women; and not only women but even a large section of men are shocked to see this rule introduced in the Civil Service Recruitment Rules.

This has come as a surprise and a shock to us because it is quite contrary to the spirit that has been guiding the policy of the administration since we attained freedom. It is also against all informed and progressive social opinion in this country. After the attainment of freedom, what has been the policy of Government? Just now, our Prime Minister has told us that the policy was to give equal opportunities to all. The Government opened new avenues of work and opportunity for women. There was also a recognition that women are capable of shouldering responsibility equally well. We have seen, during the last few years, women holding the highest positions in this country. We have seen women who are mothers of children as Ambassadors, as Governors, as Ministers and in various other walks of life. Wherever we sent them, they have earned a good name, they have worked efficiently and with credit. After that, I cannot see any reason for framing this kind of discriminatory rule in the Government service rules.

I do realise that the position of women in India, perhaps, is even better than in some of the other so-called progressive countries of the West. The attitude of men towards women, on the whole, is very good. For that, what is the reason? We have not to seek the reason very far. The reason is our recent history. We were very fortunate to have, as our leader, Mahatma Gandhi. He was not only sympathetic towards the Harijans, towards all backward people, but his great understanding of women and sympathy for them is known to all of us. He was very anxious to bring us forward; he was very anxious to remove all discriminations that were there against us. I remember—it is just like a picture before me—once when I was speaking with him, a few months before his death, he said:

"मैं नाचूंगा और बहुत खुश होऊंगा जब हिन्दुस्तान का राष्ट्रपति एक औरत होगी और हरिजन होगी।"

He wanted the lowest among us, the most depressed amongst us to fill the highest post. That was the atti-

[Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani]

tude of Gandhiji and with great deal of affection and care he brought us forward. Thus he created an atmosphere in the country and the leaders who followed Mahatma Gandhi are actuated by the same spirit. That is why, perhaps, we have had a better and easier time than women in many other countries, who have had to struggle for their rights.

How have these rights come to us? They have not come to us as a boon conferred on us by men. They have come to us as a result of our efforts during the last 30 or 40 years. Our women have acquitted themselves very well; women who were in the farthest villages, uneducated women, women from the poorest to the richest homes never hesitated to bear the utmost hardships in the struggle for freedom. We were not afraid; we were sent to the most risky and dangerous places and we fulfilled our obligation just as men. In recognition of our services rendered to the freedom struggle we have attained our rights, we have attained this position. That is why these rules are a great shock to me. I was greatly surprised when I saw this discriminatory clause.

Besides, I feel that this rule is quite repugnant to the Constitution. I request you, Sir, to refer to articles 14, 15 and 16 of our Constitution. I am sure if this matter were taken to the courts, it would be declared *ultra vires*. Article 16 says that there shall be equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment or appointment to any office under the State. In the Constitution, in another article, we have said that there shall be no discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste or sex. So, when we have made such provision in the Constitution, how this rule can be framed is beyond my understanding.

In arguing his case, I suppose the hon. Home Minister will say that women who are mothers of children cannot perform certain functions and cannot efficiently carry on their work. I would like to remind the hon. Home Minister that in other parts of the world, we have seen women, mothers of children, performing the most difficult tasks. I went to Russia a few months back. There, to my very pleasant surprise, I discovered not in the western part of Russia but in the eastern or Asiatic Russia—in Uzbekistan,—we visited the Farhad dam, there we found a tablet with the names of three women inscribed there. That was in memory of the women who had built up that dam. The heaviest tasks have been performed by Russian and Chinese Women. As our Prime Minister just now mentioned, that Indian women have in no way shown that they are backward, why then do you want this discrimination in the rules? We have also to think of other things. When you make such a provision that on the grounds of inefficiency the women may be dismissed, you open the door for discrimination, you open the door for exploitation, you open the door for oppression of women. Suppose a woman worker has fallen out with her superior officer, then he can make this ground to harass and get her out. Therefore, I consider such rules as not only repugnant to the Constitution but also highly unfair.

Now-a-days, with the present state of economic condition in the country, many women are the bread-winners of the family, many women have to support their sisters and brothers and many women have to support their husbands' families. Suppose a woman worker is dismissed from service, what happens to the members of her family? You must think twice before you pass such rules. I would also appeal to you that instead of having this provision in this crude and blatantly discriminatory form, which can hardly stand the scrutiny of law you can do something else. Suppose a girl is married and she is not able to perform her functions efficiently she can be persuaded to resign. I am sure the women of India, have got enough honesty and sense of responsibility to realise that if they cannot perform their duties they

should vacate the posts. I am sure if she is treated properly, if she is handled properly, she will be ready to resign her post. Therefore, it will be very wrong to pass this kind of rule against the women of India who have done their duty and played their role to help you in the fight for freedom and in building up the nation. It is a very iniquitous provision and I hope the hon. Home Minister will remove it from the rules.

**Kumari Annie Mascarene:** I rise to oppose the rule framed against women and to support the motion of Mr. V. P. Nayar.

These rules are framed to maintain efficiency, discipline and character in service. I quite agree with the Home Minister if the object of framing this rule was to attain these objectives without discrimination of sex. The Prime Minister has given us an assurance that the rule is only permissive because the word "may" is there, and from his speech, I understood—may be I have not understood him correctly—that it was a measure to prevent men from committing bigamy or something of the sort. If that is the meaning implied in that permissive rule, I beg to submit that much might be said on both sides. The Prime Minister said that women coming into public life find many difficulties and men are responsible for them. It may be so but I say that when we come into public life, we must be prepared to fight the battle and we are equally responsible, especially when we come across combustible materials. I have heard many a scandal in the service of the Central Secretariat with regard to women workers. I am not surprised in the Home Minister framing such a rule to prevent such misbehaviour, but I wish to tell him that these are exceptional cases and you cannot frame a rule from exceptional cases. If you do frame a rule based on exceptional cases, I request you please to be generous enough and impartial enough to apply it to both sexes. That is the attitude I have taken to this rule. The question of married women entering public service has engaged the attention of not only the Home Minister of India, but the Home Minister in U.K., in America, in Russia, in China, in fact, all over the world. In the U.K. this question came for discussion and Mr. W. A. Robson has written a book The British Civil Servant, and in that book he has given his arguments on the subject. It is said that woman cannot find sufficient time to attend to public service when she has a home, and he replies to it by saying—

> "It is barely susceptible to logic since it enlists passion and prejudice and the whole force of traditional resistance to changes in the structure of society."

He goes on further to say—

> "In actual plain fact, however, the employment of married women in the higher grades of the Civil Service would not raise such tremendous issues, and would not, if permitted, cause any wholesale dislocation of the family system. What would happen, if the marriage bar were removed, is what ought to happen if the admission of women to public administration is to have its true effect, and that is that a mixed sample of the educated female population would be available and would be used by the Government for its own work. Many women, no doubt, would voluntarily leave the service on their marriage, but those who stayed on would be those to whom the work itself was particularly appropriate. Marriage would act automatically as a sort of selective test, and those who survived it and remained in the Civil Service would be the good stuff which would be particularly useful."

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair.*]

How can public service remain representative if it cut off married women from service? I say they become more and more qualified and

[Kumari Annie Mascarene]

specialised because they are married women. As the Prime Minister agreed, a married woman as a teacher is much better than an unmarried woman, and so also a married woman as a nurse is still better than an unmarried nurse. This is the position in public health and in teaching. When I went to the U.S.S.R., I noticed that there is no field where women have not entered, and when I asked I was told that during the second world war, nine million men had been killed and their places had to be filled up by women, and the women rose to the occasion and they have discharged their duty to the best of their capacity and have built up the Russian nation today. I find that in Russia no man has any quarrel for women entering any field of service. I have seen them as engineers, I have seen them as architects, I have seen them running motor cars, lorries and trains. I have seen them as station masters and in all capacities and they have not maintained their homes unhappy. On the other hand, I am glad to tell you that married life in Russia is quite different from what it is represented to us here. There, the married life is rendered very happy by employing both husband and wife in service and they have a rule that a husband who keeps the wife at home is penalised by asking him to pay a tax of 90 roubles a year. The moment she is employed, he has not to pay the tax. I asked the reason and they told me that the economic independence on the part of husband and wife is an insurance against bad character and they lead quite a happy married life. The children's provision is made by the State who looks after the children and sends them to school. Home is not broken. The children are not brought up by the State as we are told. The home is not broken and I have visited many homes of the rich and the poor and I have found that the father, the mother and the children are enjoying complete family life and they are all happy. Therefore, this rule is peculiar to the Home Minister and he can rest assured that when he stands for the next election, we shall vote him out.

The writer goes further and says—

> "In so far, then, as the admission of women to the Civil Service is designed to bring the administration into closer relation with the tone and temper of the public which it serves, the marriage bar frustrates that object. Until it is removed, and until public servants can be drawn from the most appropriate members of all sections of the community, the chief advantage which women can bring will remain limited and restricted; and no fear of innovation, or of staff complication, ought to be allowed to interfere with the fullest development of the service."

In support of your permissive rule I wish to say only one thing that it is perhaps necessary to maintain the character in the Civil Service. Sir, it is very necessary that women who enter the Civil Service should maintain the integrity of the public service by their serious and business-like character. I do not agree with those women who come into public service to ruin and destroy homes and encourage men to commit bigamy. Woman is as much to be blamed as man is, because there are some women as there are many such men that this rule had to come into prominence. Sir, you will please take stringent measures not only on the man who commits bigamy, but the woman who helps to commit bigamy. Dismiss both from service. That will be a better course to adopt than retaining a record of disqualification on my sex from generation to generation.

The Prime Minister said that it is only permissive. The moment he is gone, the moment people like him who steer the ship of State today are gone from their positions, this rule will

become rigid and precedents will be created to confirm this rule and take away the character of permissiveness from it. The Prime Minister, we know, is well-meaning, and sincere, but we cannot take it as an assurance for a long time to come. We want the removal of this clause. If you retain this clause, please apply it to both the sexes and do not show any discrimination in this age when in our struggle for freedom we stood shoulder to shoulder with you. Let us continue to stand shoulder to shoulder in future also and by our unstinted service and sacrifice and co-operation build a solid nation.

**श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी** (करनाल) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, अभी रूल्स के बारे में हम में से बहुत से लोग यहां एतराज करने के लिए बैठे हुए हैं। रूल २ और ३ को साथ साथ देखकर, जिसमें पहले में यह है कि दो बीवी वाले पुरुष को नौकरी नहीं मिलनी चाहिए, और दूसरे में यह है कि मैरिड वीमैन पर रैस्ट्रिक्शन लगाये गये हैं, ऐसा मालूम होता है कि जो सरकार ने पहले में अच्छा काम किया है उसकी नाराजगी वह दूसरे में ले आयी है। इससे ऐसा मालूम होता है कि जहां पहले रूल से औरतों को कुछ दिया गया है वहां दूसरे रूल से नाराज होकर उनसे वह चीज छीनने की चेष्टा की गयी है। अभी प्राइम मिनिस्टर के एश्योरेंस के बाद हम लोगों को कुछ तसल्ली जरूर हुई और यह मालूम हुआ कि यह रूल बनाते वक्त दो चीजें उनके सामने थीं। एक तो गवर्नमेंट सरविसेज में एफीशेंसी की बात थी और दूसरे यह कि घर सैपेरेट न हों और औरत अपना फर्ज अदा कर सके, बच्चों को देखभाल सके और दूसरे काम कर सके। तो इन चीजों को सामने रखकर ये रूल लाये गये हैं। जहां तक एफीशेंसी का ताल्लुक है उसके बाबत में यह कहती हूं कि इस बात की गवर्नमेंट को पावर होनी चाहिए कि चाहे वह पुरुष हो या स्त्री हो इनएफीशेंसी की वजह से उसको हटाया जा सके। लेकिन शादी का खास ताल्लुक इनएफीशेंसी से हो सकता है और वह पुरुषों के लिए नहीं हो सकता है सिर्फ औरतों के लिए ही हो सकता है यह बात मेरी समझ में नहीं आती। हमारे प्राइम मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि जब पति-पत्नी दोनों नौकरी करते होते हैं तो उनका ट्रांसफर करने में बड़ी दिक्कत होती है कि एक को कहां भेज दें और दूसरे को कहां भेज दें। अगर उनको अलग-अलग कर दिया जाता है तो इससे एफीशेंसी में कमी आ जाती है। हम लोगों के पास रात दिन सरकारी मुलाजिम आते रहते हैं और हमको अपनी तकलीफें सुनाते हैं। वह कहते हैं कि अगर हमारा ट्रांसफर यहां से हो गया तो हमारे बच्चे नहीं पढ़ सकेंगे और भी बहुत सी दिक्कतें हो जायंगी और इसलिए हम चाहते हैं कि हमारा पोस्टिंग एक खास जगह हो, लेकिन इन सब चीजों को देखते हुए भी सरकार को अधिकार है कि वह जहां चाहे उनका ट्रांसफर कर सकती है और चाहे जहां उनका पोस्टिंग कर सकती है। इसी तरह से जो बहिनें इस किस्म की नौकरी करेंगी और शादी शुदा होंगी या बाद में शादी करेंगी तो यह उनके देखने की बात है। सरकार के ऊपर यह देखने की पाबन्दी नहीं होनी चाहिए कि वह उनको अलग करेगी या कहां रखेगी। अगर सरकार यह देखती है तो बहुत अच्छा है। लेकिन जो बहिन नौकरी करती है वह यह उम्मीद नहीं रखती है कि रूल्स के मुताबिक सरकार उसकी इन सब चीजों को देखे जिसमें कि उसके लिए दिक्कत पैदा हो।

दूसरी बात है औरतों को प्रोटेक्शन देने की। जैसा कि यहां पर कोट किया जा रहा है, हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि स्त्री का फर्ज है कि वह अपने बच्चे की देखभाल करे। यह बात ठीक है। मैं तो चाहती हूं कि ऐसी अवस्था आ जावे कि इस देश में किसी शादी शुदा औरत को नौकरी करने की जरूरत ही न पड़े। मैं तो चाहती हूं कि सरकार कोई ऐसा प्रबन्ध कर देती कि शादी शुदा औरत को चाहे उसके बच्चे पालने के लिए हों या न हों या घर का काम संभालने के लिए हो या न हो उसको नौकरी करने की जरूरत न पड़ती। लेकिन आजकल की अवस्था में कोई ऐसी बात नहीं की जा सकती। मैं उन बहिनों को देखती हूं जो अपने घरों से बच्चों को उठाकर लाती हैं और सड़क

[श्रीमती सुभद्रा जोशी]

पर रख देती हैं और मजदूरी करती हैं, तसले उठाती हैं, मेहनत करती हैं, भीख मांगती हैं और न मालूम क्या क्या काम करती हैं । अगर बच्चों को पालने और घर गृहस्थी को ठीक से चलाने की बात है तो उन लाखों बहिनों को सुविधा मिलनी चाहिए कि वे अपने घरों में रह कर बच्चों को पालें और घर गृहस्थी का काम अच्छी तरह से करें । उनको कोई सुविधा न देकर आप उस स्त्री के लिए जो कि एक ऊंची पोस्ट पर हैं, और जो अपने बच्चों के लिए नौकर रख सकती हैं, आया रख सकती हैं और हजारों तरह के इन्तजाम कर सकती हैं, यह प्रतिबन्ध लगाना चाहते हैं । जिनको छोटी छोटी तनखाहें मिलती हैं जैसे टीचर हैं उनको तो बच्चों के पालने में और भी दिक्कत होती होगी । पर उनके लिए आप यह प्रतिबन्ध नहीं लगाते । पर उस पर यह प्रतिबन्ध लगाते हैं जिसको ज्यादा तनखाह मिलती हैं और जो हर तरह से अपने बच्चों का इन्तजाम कर सकती हैं ।

जहां तक सेपरेशन का ताल्लुक है मैं भी चाहती हूं कि शादी शुदा लोग अलग न किये जायं और जहां तक हो सकता हैं साथ रहें । लेकिन हजारों ऐसे केसेज हो सकते हैं, जैसा कि अभी सुचेता बहिन ने कहा, कि बच्चों को पालने के लिए स्त्रियों को काम करना पड़े । हो सकता हैं कि किसी का पति काम न कर सकता हो, अनएम्पलायड हो या इनवैलिड हो गया हो । तो ऐसे हालात हो सकते हैं कि उसको काम करने की जरूरत हो । और फिर दूसरी चीज जो हमको सोचनी हैं वह यह हैं कि स्त्री की भी अपनी एक जिन्दगी होती हैं । आज वह पति के साथ हैं, सौभाग्य शालिनी हैं और उसके पास सब कुछ हैं । कल को हो सकता हैं कि उसे अपने पैरों पर खड़ा होना पड़े, उसको अपनी जिन्दगी अलग बसर करनी पड़े । शादी उसके लिए कोई आखिरी चीज नहीं हैं । तो ऐसी हालत में उसके रास्ते में रोड़े अटका देना कि वह अपने पैरों पर खड़ी न हो सके कहां तक ठीक होगा । हो सकता हैं कि उसके पास पैसा न हो और उसको काम करना पड़े । तो ऐसी हालत में उसके रास्ते में रुकावट डाल देना मुनासिब नहीं होगा ।

फिर इसमें लिखा हैं "where a woman appointed to the Service subsequently marries.....".

जैसा कि सुचेता बहिन ने कहा इन शब्दों का मुनासिब तौर पर इस्तेमाल हो सकता हैं या ऐसा भी हो सकता हैं कि अगर कोई औरत जो कि नौकरी में आ गयी हैं शादी करना चाहे तो उसके ऊपर के अफसर उसमें बेजा तौर पर रुकावट डालें । मैं कहती हूं कि फर्ज कीजिये उस औरत ने जो सर्विस में हैं शादी की, तो जो उसका इम्मिजियेट अफसर हैं जिसके हाथ में ताकत हो वह अगर उस औरत को अपने काम में इनएफिशेंट पाये तो अलबत्ता उसको हटा देना चाहिये । मैरिज इस सम्बन्ध में कोई आखिरी चीज नहीं हो सकती हैं । फर्ज कीजिये कल को उसका आदमी मर गया तो फिर आप क्या उसको सर्विस में रखेंगे और अगर रखेंगे तो फिर से उसका एम्पलायमेंट होगा या उसकी पिछली सर्विस जो उसने उस शादी के पहले की थी वह भी जोड़ी जायगी, सारी सर्विस उसकी कंटीन्यू समझी जायगी, उस केस में होम मिनिस्ट्री क्या करेगी । शादी एक ऐसी चीज हैं जो एक एक्सीडेंट से होती हैं, यह अच्छी भी होती हैं और बुरी भी होती हैं और शादी के ही कारण उस की रोज की जिन्दगी में एक रुकावट पैदा करना या उस पर कोई ऐसी शर्त लगा देना यह एक औरत के लिये बहुत अच्छी बात नहीं हैं । मैं यह नहीं कहना चाहती हूं कि यह जो रूल या शर्त रखी गयी हैं वह संविधान के अनुकूल हैं या नहीं लेकिन मैं तो अपने होम मिनिस्टर साहब से यहां तक दरख्वास्त करूंगी कि अगर बिलफर्ज यह आपकी शर्त कांस्टीट्यूशन के मुताबिक भी हो तो भी ऐसी शर्त नहीं रखनी चाहिये और आपको कांस्टीट्यूशन में भी अमेंडमेंट करने की कृपा करनी चाहिये ।

एक आखिरी बात जो मैं कहना चाहती हूं वह यह हैं कि चाहे वह औरतों की मदद करने

के ख्याल से, देखी जाय और चाहे वह नौकरी में एफिशेंसी के लिहाज से देखी जाय, वह पाबन्दी कुछ तो मुनासिब मालूम होती है पर, अध्यक्ष महोदय, इस सम्बन्ध में जो सब से नामुनासिब बात मालूम देती है वह यह है कि यह जो डिस्क्रीशन है कि आया अब उसको काम करना चाहिये या नहीं करना चाहिये, उसको अपनी फैमिली से सैपरेट होना चाहिये या नहीं होना चाहिये, इतनी दूर सर्विस पर जाना चाहिये या नहीं जाना चाहिये, इन सारी बातों का फैसला उस औरत पर छोड़ा जाना चाहिये जो नौकरी करती है, इसका फैसला जो नौकरी देता है उस पर नहीं छोड़ना चाहिये । अगर वह औरत ऐसा समझती है कि उसको फैमिली छोड़ कर अलग दूर जगह नहीं जाना चाहिये तो उसको काम छोड़ देना चाहिये पर यह शर्त लगा देना और यह कहना कि यह अच्छे मोटिव से हम लगा रहे हैं, हम नहीं चाहते कि वह अपनी फैमिली से अलग हो, हम चाहते हैं कि वह अपने घर वालों के साथ रहे, मोटिव आपका अच्छा हो सकता है पर मेरी अर्ज है कि इन तमाम चीजों का फैसला जो नौकरी करता है उस पर छोड़ देना चाहिये, जो नौकरी देता है उस पर नहीं छोड़ना चाहिये । जहां तक इनएफिशेंसी का सम्बन्ध है, मेरा कहना यह है कि अगर शादी की वजह से इनएफिशेंसी साबित होती है या किसी भी वजह से हो, ऐसी हालत में चाहे वह पुरुष हो या स्त्री हो, इनएफिशेंसी साबित होने पर तो गवर्नमेंट के पास हमेशा वह पावर होनी चाहिये कि चाहे कोई पुरुष हो या स्त्री उसको सर्विस से निकालने का अधिकार उनके हाथ में होना चाहिये । मैरिज का उससे कोई ताल्लुक रखना न्यायपूर्ण बात नहीं मालूम होती है ।

**Shrimati Sushama Sen:** I quite agree with the last speaker that women should be given the discretion whether they are capable of taking up any service or not.

This is a discrimination against married women. Women have been granted equal status as men under the Constitution. If such a provision is not against men on the statute-book, why should this ban be put on the statute book in respect of women?

It is a well recognised fact and accepted principle in every country in the world today that women also participate in every branch of nation-building activities. Otherwise the country cannot go forward. Indian women have shown their worth by taking a leading part in the struggle for freedom. They have gone into prisons with children in their arms and made enormous sacrifices. So how can it be said that women cannot make these sacrifices and they are not efficient? Married women can be as efficient as any one else, provided the State provides these safeguards and conditions which will ensure educational, health and economic welfare of their children.

The Leader of the House has given us an assurance that the rule has no static sanctity and is only a permissive clause. We hope that it will be so. Because, this ban to be put on the statute-book is really a slur on our Constitution. And I would appeal to the Leader of the House, who is not present in the House at the moment, and to the Home Minister to consider that this ban on women should not be on the statute-book. I would again request them to have it removed as soon as possible. Since the Leader of the House has given us this assurance I am sure he will do it, as he is the champion of the women's cause. We know that most of us are here on account of our Leader, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, and I am sure that he will have this removed from the statute-book.

**श्रीमती ताराकेश्वरी सिन्हा** (पटना पूर्व) : अध्यक्ष महोदय, दर असल जो कुछ हमारी पहले की बहिनों ने अपनी बातों में कहा है, मुझे उसी को दुहराना है । पर वह दुहराना इसलिये है कि हम जो यहां पर दस औरतें हैं या बीस औरतें और जो हम कहते हैं वह खाली हम दस या बीस औरतों की आवाज नहीं है, बल्कि हम उन औरतों को देख रही हैं जो अपने घरों में

[श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा]

बैठी हैं, चाहे यह रूल्स उनकी रोजमर्रा की जिन्दगी में आयें या न आयें लेकिन वह चाहती हैं कि ऐसा डिसक्रीमिनेशन उनके साथ न होना चाहिये, चूंकि वह भी औरत हैं और एक औरत की कठिनाइयों, मजबूरियों और तकलीफों को समझती हैं। और इस कारण मुझे इस बात की पक्की उम्मीद है कि उनकी सद्भावना हमारे साथ है। इसीलिये हम जो भी यहां इस हाउस में दस, पांच औरतें बैठी हैं हम उन औरतों की तरफ से यहां अपनी बातें रखने का हक रखती हैं।

सन् १९५० जनवरी महीने का वह दिन मुझे याद आता है जब कि विधान में हमारी औरतों को और जो हमारे पिछड़े हुए लोग थे हिन्दुस्तान के, उनको हमने बड़ी जोर से पुकार कर कहा था, बहुत से महानुभाव जो हमारी कांस्टीट्युएंट असेम्बली में थे, आज भी यहां हैं उन्होंने भी उस दिन जोर से आवाज दे कर कहा था कि औरतों को बराबरी का हक मिलना चाहिये। कांस्टीट्युएंट असेम्बली ने इस बात को पास किया कि किसी भी हालत में किसी भी परिस्थिति में औरतों को देश के किसी भी काम से या समाज के किसी भी काम से महरूम नहीं रखा जायेगा और उन्हें मर्दों के समान मौका दिया जायेगा, लेकिन आज हम देखते हैं कि हमने भारतीय प्रजातंत्र की सातवीं वर्ष गांठ मनाई तो हमें अपने स्वाधीन भारत के गृहमंत्री की ओर से सौगात मिलती है कि औरतो तुम पीछे हटो। मेरा मतलब उन हमारी बहिनों से नहीं है जो सामाजिक या राजनैतिक क्षेत्र में काम कर रही हैं या जैसे हम लोक सभा की सदस्य हैं, क्योंकि वह सर्विस रूल्स हम पर लागू नहीं होते। लेकिन जो हमारी बहिनें आज उस परिस्थिति में हैं और सरकारी पदों पर काम कर रही हैं, आज यह पाबन्दी आपने उन पर रख दी है जो मेरी समझ में उचित नहीं है। मेरे पास आंकड़े हैं, मुझे समझ में नहीं आ रहा है कि सरकार ने क्या देखा और क्या उसको ऐसी जरूरत पेश आयी जो उन्होंने शादी शुदा औरतों के रास्ते में यह कांटे बिछा दिये। मुझे अभी डिप्टी होम मिनिस्टर साहब से जो आंकड़े मिले हैं उनके अनुसार मैं आपको बताऊं कि आज हमारी आई० ए० एस० सर्विस में कुल सात औरतें हैं जिनमें से केवल एक ही औरत शादीशुदा है। फारेन सर्विस में पांच औरतें हैं और पांचों की पांचों गैर शादी शुदा हैं। जहां तक पुलिस सर्विस का सवाल है वहां ऐसा कोई सवाल ही नहीं है क्योंकि वहां कोई औरत नहीं है। अब भला बतलाइये कि सारी सर्विसेज में केवल एक औरत है जो शादी शुदा है और जिसके खिलाफ आप इस तरह की पाबन्दी लगाने जा रहे हैं। हम समझते थे कि गृह मंत्री जी बड़े बुजुर्ग हैं और जो कम उम्र के लोग हैं, उन सब से ज्यादा हमारी तकलीफों और कठिनाइयों की ओर सहानुभूति रखते होंगे। परन्तु गृह मंत्री जी के ही राज्य में और उन्हीं के हाथों से ऐसा कुठाराघात हमारे हकों पर हुआ यह हमारे लिये बड़ी शोचनीय और शोक की बात है, और उस के लिये हम कभी भी गृह मंत्री जी को माफ नहीं कर सकते। सिर्फ एक औरत शादीशुदा है जिस के लिये हमारे गृह मंत्री जी ने यह कानून बनाया है, आखिर क्यों ? अगर कोई बात थी तो वह उस को हाउस के सामने ला कर रखते कि इस औरत ने इंडियन एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विस में अच्छा काम नहीं किया। उन के महकमे में एक औरत डिप्टी सेक्रेटरी हैं, वह यहां बैठी हुई थीं, अभी उठ कर चली गई हैं। मैं पूछती हूं कि कौन सा मौका उन्होंने यह कहने का दिया है कि उन्होंने अच्छा काम नहीं किया ? औरतें जो डिपार्टमेंट में हैं उन के काम के आंकड़े रखे जाते और बताया जाता कि औरतों ने अच्छा काम नहीं किया और उनके काम की शिकायत आई है, तो हमारी आंखें झुक जातीं। परन्तु हमारे गृह मंत्री साहब कहते हैं कि वह बच्चों को नहीं पाल सकेंगी। बच्चों को संभालने की जिम्मेदारी मां के बदले में हमारे गृह मंत्री जी ने ले ली है यह एक अजीब सी चीज है।

डा० काटजू : मातायें न करें तो कौन करे ?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : मैं इस का जवाब भी गृह मंत्री जी को दूंगी।

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the chair.*]

जिस दिन परमेश्वर ने औरत को पैदा किया था उस के अन्दर मां बनने की भावना को भर दिया था। इस की बात आप उस से पूछिये जो कि मां हैं। आप उस की तकलीफों का और कठिनाइयों का मुकाबला न सोचने में कर सकते हैं और न समझने में।

डा० काटजू : यह ठीक है।

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : इसलिये कि वह औरत पहले मां है बाद में और कुछ। परन्तु वह नौकरी करने को, अपने माता के धर्म को और अपनी जिम्मेदारियों को पूरा करने के लिये भी मजबूर हो सकती है। पहले औरतें कभी नौकरी नहीं किया करती थीं। नौकरी करने में कोई बड़ा मजा नहीं आता है। मैं अपने होम मिनिस्टर साहब को बतलाना चाहती हूं कि नौकरी करने के रास्ते में औरत के लिये फूल नहीं बिछे हुए हैं।

डा० काटजू : मालूम तो ऐसा ही होता है।

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : मैं बताती हूं। दो ही कारणों से औरतें नौकरी करती हैं। एक तो परिस्थितियों से मजबूर हो कर, शायद उन का पति लायक न हो और वह बच्चों की परवरिश न कर सकता हो, औरत की परवरिश न कर सकता हो, मां बाप की परवरिश न कर सकता हो, इस लिये औरतों को नौकरी करनी पड़ती है। दूसरी औरतें जो नौकरी करती हैं वह इसलिये कि वह बहुत अच्छा काम कर सकती हैं और वह अपनी योग्यता को घर के बर्तनों को साफ करने या रोटी बनाने में ही खर्च नहीं करना चाहतीं। परन्तु इस का मतलब यह नहीं है कि जो माता का कर्तव्य है वह उस को छोड़ देती हैं, पति के प्रति जो उन का कर्तव्य है उस को छोड़ देती हैं। मैं अपने गृह मंत्री जी से यह बताना चाहती हूं कि हमारे यहां की औरतें इस बारे में उन को उपदेश दे सकती हैं, उनसे सीखने की आवश्यकता नहीं।

दूसरी बात जो मुझे कहनी है वह यह कि, सभापति महोदय, हमारे देहातों में एक कहावत है, बहुत छोटी सी कहावत है और साथ में मोटी सी भी। लोग देहात में अक्सर कहते हैं कि "अरे भैया, जब गांव की कोई औरत बच्चे को उस की मां से ज्यादा प्यार करना शुरू कर दे, तो समझ लो कि वह डायन है", क्योंकि मां से ज्यादा कोई भी बच्चे को प्यार नहीं कर सकता है। सभापति महोदय, मैं नहीं चाहती कि मैं अपने होम मिनिस्टर साहब को उस दायरे में रक्खूं जिस में कि गांव वाले कहा करते हैं कि जो औरत गांव में मां से ज्यादा बच्चे को प्यार करने लगे उस को समझना चाहिये कि वह डायन है। पर यह जरूर है कि हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब का प्यार बच्चों के लिये जरूरत से ज्यादा बढ़ गया है।

**Mr. Chairman:** The Home Minister is supposed to be the mother of every child in the land.

**Shri D. C. Sharma:** Has the Home Minister become a mother now?

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : सभापति महोदय, अब मैं ज्यादा इस बात पर बहस नहीं करना चाहती क्योंकि गृह मंत्री महोदय की जो आवाज निकलती है, उस में किसी प्रकार की हिम्मत नहीं है। प्रधान मंत्री की बात से जरूर मैं समझती हूं कि उस में कोई सार है। प्रधान मंत्री महोदय ने जो बातें कही थीं उन में से एक डिप्लोमैटिक सर्विस के लिये थी। जहां तक इस का सवाल है कि औरतों को एक हजार मील दूर भेजने में बाधा हो सकती है। पर प्रधान मंत्री जी ने महसूस नहीं किया है कि औरतों को इस तरह का कानून रखने से क्या दिक्कतें हो सकती हैं। यह जरूरी नहीं है कि सभी औरतें आई० ए० एस० में ही आवें या डिप्लोमैटिक सर्विस में ही जावें। आज औरतों की नौकरी का मामला आप के हाथ में है आप जो चाहे करें।

डा० काटजू : आप हैं तो सही।

श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा : १०० में से अगर ५० औरतें यहां होतीं, जितना कि हम लोग दावा

[श्रीमती तारकेश्वरी सिन्हा]

करते हैं कि हम लोग वोटर्स हैं, तो हम समझते हैं कि गृह मंत्री जी की हिम्मत यह कहने की न होती । आजकल दस पांच औरतों की बातों को टाल देना उन के लिये बहुत आसान है । परन्तु मैं दो तीन बातें आप के सामने रखने की आज्ञा चाहती हूं । लंदन आब्जर्वर में एक बार एक लेख निकला था । आप कहते हैं कि हिन्दुस्तान में औरतों का स्टैंडर्ड बढ़ गया है, लेकिन इंग्लैंड में आज से ७० वर्ष पहले औरतों को सिविल सर्विस में आने की आज्ञा मिली थी । किस ने आज्ञा दी थी ? होम डिपार्टमैंट ने । तो आज से ७० वर्ष पहले इंग्लैंड में औरतें सिविल सर्विस में आईं और पूरी तरह से लाई गईं । लड़ाई के बाद यह एक बहुत बड़ी समस्या हो गई थी क्योंकि लड़ाई से मर्द लौटने लगे थे और वहां सभी जगहों पर स्त्रियां भर गई थीं । मर्दों ने एजिटेशन करना शुरू कर दिया कि सारी जगहों में औरतें ले ली गईं । उस समय लन्दन आब्जर्वर में लिखा था :

> "Timid old gentlemen," as the London Observer wrote recently in a leading article reviewing an excellent book about women, "remembering suffragettes, must be twittering nervously. The nation's women, formed once more into a 'monstrous regiment' by another war, are more concerned this time with what they were promised after the last war and did not get."

इस के अन्दर डाक्टर साहब भी आ सकते हैं । आप चाहते हैं कि हमारे अन्दर भी, हिन्दुस्तान के अन्दर भी एक आन्दोलन शुरू हो ।

इस के बाद मैं एक और कोटेशन दूं । १७ नवम्बर, १९४४ में कमेटी आफ दि सिविल सर्विस व्हिटले कौंसिल ने एक रिपोर्ट दी जिस में उन्होंने कहा कि सिविल सर्विस में औरतों का क्या हाल है :

[The Committee of the Civil Service Whitley Council issued a Report which says:]

> "After 1929 when the Royal Commission on the Civil Service recommended that women should have a 'fair field and no favour,' women have gradually been given greater opportunities."

इस के बाद अपने जमाने में सर स्ट्रैफर्ड क्रिप्स ने कहा था ।

[Sir Stafford Cripps said:]

> "How far the war-time development of women's work will persist through into the peace, is a question of vast economic importance to the community. It is certain that we shall only be able to provide a decent standard for the people of this country if we employ not only all the men, but a very large proportion of the women as well after the war. We have achieved the theoretical acceptance of equality of capacity, but we have not yet worked out the economic basis for that equality."

मैं तो कहती हूं कि सरकार की जिम्मेदारी होनी चाहिये थी कि औरतों को जो आगे आई हैं, वह ज्यादा से ज्यादा सुविधा देती कि वह देश का काम कर सकें । परन्तु इस के लिये मैं आप को जिम्मेदार नहीं समझती । हम नहीं चाहती हैं कि आप से ज्यादा से ज्यादा सुविधा मांगें । लेकिन अगर हम काम अच्छा करती हैं तो कोई हक नहीं है आप को कि आप हमारे रास्ते में तरह तरह अटकायें । अगर हम अच्छा काम नहीं करतीं तो आप शौक से हम को निकाल बाहर कीजिये । आज हम राजनीति में आये हैं और किसी से पीछे नहीं रही हैं । हम ने कभी मांग नहीं की कि हमें इस के लिये मौका दिया जाय । अगर हम लायक समझी जायें तो हम को मौका दिया जाय । इसी तरह से हम सरकारी नौकरियों की भी मांग नहीं करती हैं, हम तो आप को चैलेंज देना चाहती हैं कि ऐसा रूल बनाने के पहले आप खुले मैदान में जा कर कहें कि हम ने अच्छा काम किया है । हम इस से कनविन्स होने वाली नहीं हैं कि हम पति से अलग हो जायेंगी और हमारा घर बार बिगड़ जायेगा । अध्यक्ष महोदय, मुझे और भी बोलना

था क्योंकि ये ऐसी बातें हैं जो कि चोट करती हैं। पर आपकी आज्ञा बार बार हो रही है इसलिए मैं ज्यादा नहीं बोलूंगी। पर मैं सरकार से फिर यह कहूंगी कि अभी भी मौका है कि मंत्री महोदय इस रूल को वापस ले लें। वह बाल की खाल निकाल रहे हैं। इससे दो तीन औरतों को फायदा या नुकसान होने वाला है पर इससे आप बाहर एक आन्दोलन तैयार कर रहे हैं। वह औरतें जो कि बाहर बैठी हुई हैं उन्हें आप आन्दोलन का मौका दे रहे हैं। मंत्री महोदय को मालूम है कि आज दिल्ली की डेढ़ सौ औरतें जो कि अपने घरों की चहारदीवारी से बाहर नहीं निकलतीं वह उनके पास आयी थीं और वह उनसे बहस नहीं कर सके। मैं फिर अपील करूंगी कि आप इस रूल को अबालिश करें और जैसे कि पुरुषों के लिए रूल हैं वैसे ही स्त्रियों के लिए रखें।

**Mr. Chairman:** Shrimati Jayashri.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** (Sholapur—Reserved—Sch. Castes) *rose*—

**Mr. Chairman:** The hon. Member must be gallant enough. It is now the ladies' turn

**Shrimati Jayashri:** I am obliged to you for giving me this opportunity to express my view on this subject. I have sent in an amendment also to Rule 5(3).

We are grateful to the Prime Minister for the tribute paid to the women of India and we are glad that he has given us the assurance that there will be no barrier between the sexes.

Women, as we all know, played an important part in winning *swaraj*, and after winning *swaraj* we are as keen to help in the economic prosperity and well-being of our country as we are all keen to serve in a way which will not deprive the country of efficiency. As Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani and some other Members also have said, we are honest enough to see that the efficiency in the services does not suffer.

I would like to draw the attention of the Members to the fact that the British Service Rules had kept this clause which was removed when the Congress Government came into power, and we all regret that again this rule which was removed has been introduced; that an effort has been made to introduce this rule again. This rule may not be against the Constitution, perhaps, but certainly it discriminates between married and unmarried women. And that will create a great dissatisfaction amongst the minds of women. Perhaps, there will be tension also in the minds of girls whether to select a career or marriage, and this will have very bad effect on our society. Morality, I would say, will suffer. Perhaps girls will forego their marriage and this may affect their psychology or mentality. We all know that it is not a very desirable thing that girls should remain spinsters. After all, women would like to marry and settle down, but that does not mean that women should forego the right which unmarried girls can enjoy. I would like to say that in serving our country, women are keen to help the Government.

I would like to read out a few lines by Shri Vinobaji who himself said recently in order to encourage women to come out to work. In the *Harijan*, Vinobaji has said:

> "After *swaraj* some work has, of course, to be done by Government, but there are many lines of work which the Government cannot do. The women are to be brought out of the *purdah*."

We know that *swaraj* has been achieved under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi.

**श्री पी० एन० राजभोज :** क्या विनोबा जी का यह कहना है कि स्त्रियों को आई० ए० एस० की नौकरी मिलनी चाहिए ?

**Shrimati Jayashri:** Vinobaji is also a great follower of Mahatma Gandhi. We are glad that the intention of our Prime Minister also is to help the women to preserve their status in society, and I am glad that today he

[Shrimati Jayashri]

has given an assurance that perhaps there may be a few words in the rules which are not correctly put and they may be changed.

I take this opportunity to suggest that instead of having a negative rule, we can change this wording and say that "marriage shall not be a bar to a woman for employment in Central Government service, but the Government can call upon a married woman to resign if it feels that efficiency has suffered on account of her married state". Though we would not like that married women should be deprived we are all keen to see to the efficiency in Services. In a publication of the Government, regarding "Our police", Government themselves have said:

> "The women police, comparatively a new development in our country, has fulfilled a long-felt want. It is now generally recognised that certain duties are best performed by women."

I would like to request the Home Minister to change this wording so that women will not be offended, and it would look more graceful also in our Service Rules. We know that at present in any civilised society equality of opportunity and rights for men and women is now one of the accepted conventions of progress and civilisation. Even in the Human Rights Commission we have given rights of work and opportunity irrespective of sex, and we know that the Government of India have accepted the human rights.

Another suggestion I would like to make is with regard to the other clause, with regard to bigamous marriages. Here also I would like to make a suggestion. In that rule you have said:

> "No person who has more than one wife living shall be eligible for appointment to service".

Now, what happen if the man, after being appointed, re-marries, marries another wife? There is nothing in this rule to say that a man, after being selected, should not marry a second time. So, if we can add these words:

> "nor will any man be entitled to be continued in service if he takes another wife when he has already a wife living".

That will bring more confidence in the minds of women. I know that our Government want to bring about the prevention of bigamous marriages, but if these words can be added in the rules also. I am sure it will bring confidence to the minds of the women. I put these suggestions before the Minister.

**Mr. Chairman:** Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury.

**श्री पी० एन० राजभोज :** यह सवाल हम लोगों के लिए बहुत जरूरी हैं । हमको भी पांच मिनट का समय दिया जाय ।

**Shri R. K. Chaudhuri** (Gauhati): Has the debate become one-sided?

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury** (Nabadwip): We have had an assurance...

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. There is so much noise in the House. The hon. Member is not audible.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** We have had an assurance from the Prime Minister over this rule that we are all objecting to, and we hope that his assurance will come into force. I beg to disagree with the hon. Member opposite who has just now said that she would vote the Home Minister out of his Ministership over this issue. I would not go as far as that, because, after all, I think a known Home Minister is better than an unknown Home Minister. So, I would say that he will perhaps change his views.

5 P.M.

In ancient India, women took active part in state events. They were never behind men in anything. They

were considered equal to men in any sphere. They had their part in public life. There are many illustrations, the beauteous Padmini counselled about state affairs, Mirabai gave the perfume of her intense religious life, in song and poetry to the whole of India and who can forget the Rani of Jhansi who took up the cudgels for her country. Everybody knows that Draupadi herself had a unique position. Today, women have proved that they can shoulder responsibilities. They are no farther behind men, than many men are behind women. I suppose efficiency differs everywhere. If one were to take up statistics, one could show many figures, but I will not take up the time of the House by showing many figures, except just these few. In England today, in Russia and China as well, women are doing all sorts of jobs. Here is a book which says that "in England, women today form about one-third the total number of civil servants. They fill about half the gazetted posts, and about 20 per cent. of the executive, and about 12 per cent. of the administrative posts are filled by women. These countries do not find them inefficient. Surely, in India, today, they are going to be given the opportunity that they deserve. They have shown that they are efficient. Today, we have only to look at our own Health Minister, and we see how efficiently she is going about her office. We have to see Shrimati Vijaya Lakshmi; she is acclaimed all over the world. Dr. Sushila Nayar is doing a job that no man can do better. (*Interruptions*). Again Shrimati Sarojini Naidu, the Songbird of India, administered with imagination, sympathy and understanding. I admit that there is the other side of the picture too.

**Dr. Katju:** The other side of the picture is clearly dark.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** No, it is not entirely dark.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** There may be light in the dark.

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** Women are the frailer vessels. I agree with that. There are times when they need care and rest and inevitable absence from duty. When the future generation is in their care; when they hold in themselves the coming child, they are hanicapped, for the time being, and the State should be prepared to provide for that. But on that ground, the State should not lose their efficiency. It is usually a normal function, and she has hardly to be absent for more than two or three months on this account. Any illness could overtake a man at any time, and he would need to absent himself. All the departments keep extra hands for this purpose, in order to meet those contingencies. To balance this, let us see what there is. There is the fact that women are conscientious and hard-working, and they are out to put in their best efforts. They are new to certain extent in these spheres in India to-day. I claim that, because they are new, they have enthusiasm; because they are new, they have idealism; and because they are new, they are out to prove themselves. Surely, that opportunity cannot be denied to them. Will you not therefore, keep open the doors of the services to a large section of the population? Are you going to lose the efficiency of a great number, just because you wish to put an irrational bar on married women?

**Acharya Kripalani:** What about the efficiency of Ministers? (*Interruptions*).

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury:** The solution lies in getting a few extra hands, and in enabling them to look after their children.

It is argued that a woman in employment is a man out of employment. I agree that it is true, to a certain extent. But there are cases where the women are the breadwinners. There are cases of widows who are supporting their children and the family, and in a welfare state, employment must be found for all.

[Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury]

Lastly, in all fairness, there should be equal opportunity for equal capacity. When they have proved themselves in competitive examinations and pitted their brains and minds against the men, they must be given every fair chance to hold the jobs that these examinations entitle them to.

The Indian woman is second to none in her selfless sacrifice and in her ability. She can yet be the mother, who is like Annapurna herself; in spite of doing all sorts of jobs, she can yet be the wife like Sita herself, because with her ultimate love for her husband, she can conquer all circumstances. (*Interruptions*).

**Acharya Kripalani**: Even if she is in the administrative service?

**Shrimati Ila Palchoudhury**: Yes, I should like to say that the Prime Minister gave us an assurance. But as Bernard Shaw himself has said, "fine words butter no parsnips", and a mere assurance will not do. We want that clause deleted from the rules, and women given a fair chance.

**Shrimati Maydeo** (Poona South): At the outset, I thank the Prime Minister for giving compliments to the women of India. At the same time, I must say that no compliments can justify his consent to the Home Minister to put in such a rule in the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules.

In these days of civil liberty and equality of opportunity, it was really astonishing to find such a rule in the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules. Rule 5(3) reads:

> "No married woman shall be entitled as of right to be appointed to the Service, and where a woman appointed to the Service subsequently marries, the Central Government may, if the maintenance of the efficiency of the Service so requires, call upon her to resign."

The Home Minister began to tell us that this was put in there because there is a similar provision in the case of men, to the effect that no person shall be considered for appointment to the Service, if he had more than one wife living. Because this rule is there, they began to tell us and mislead us that we should also agree to have rule 5(3). Here, we are ready to have it, provided in the other rule also, there can be a *vice versa*. But in the other rule, no one will agree to have a *vice versa*. That is why we feel that this is discrimination against sex, and this is against the Constitution that we have in India. If we allow married women to work, what harm is there, because we know in the younger generation there is family planning, and they have two children only? How much time is required for bringing up and looking after two children? Life is so long, and only ten years may be required to bring up and look after the two children. I find that the hon. Home Minister seems to be very anxious about the children of a very few higher class women, only one per cent. of whom are employed in the I.A.S. But if he is so anxious about the children of India that women should take care of them, he should begin his planning from below, and we should see that in the next Five Year Plan, we are going to begin planning from below and not from above. Let us turn our attention from the highest official, *i.e.*, the I. A. S. Officers to the lowest officials, namely, the scavengers. Have we ever turned our attention to them? Have we ever thought about them? What is their condition? They are also servants of municipalities, which means, of government. The report of the Scavengers' Living Conditions Enquiry Committee, under the presidentship of Kaka Saheb Darve, has recommended that in the next Five Year Plan at least, the women scavengers should not be allowed to carry tubs of refuse on their heads. Now, they carry refuse on their heads, even sometimes with

eight-month old babies in their wombs. But we are not attentive to these difficulties of these people. We will only look to one per cent. of I.A.S. women and feel that they will not look after their children or that they will neglect their children. These women—poor women—have given birth to 8 or 9 children and even then, they are supposed to do their work efficiently. They lose so many among their children on account of poverty and only one or two survive. So what I would suggest to the Home Minister is to start planning from below instead of from above.

The other difficulty which was pointed out was that when a woman in service got married, she would ask for a transfer. But that does not mean that there should be a rule—a general rule—excluding women from service. The Government can be very firm in their policy and say that they won't allow any woman to get transferred. Then she would decide whether to serve after marriage or resign. But there should not be a generalised rule for that reason. She will understand her duty.

Then, supposing a woman is selected in the I.A.S. she must be of remarkable intelligence or capability. I can assure you that if the woman is of such a capability and intelligence, her mother or her mother-in-law, who is very sympathetic to her, will not allow her children to be neglected. She will look after the children at home and allow her to go for service. So Government need not be anxious whether she will neglect her children or not.

There is another thing. Supposing we do not allow women in service, then what will happen? They will try to hide the fact that they are married. There was an example like that in a private firm. They made a rule that no married woman should be allowed to serve. One married woman just kept it as a secret that she was married. One day her friends pressed her to invite them to her house. She had told her husband to come home late. But she just forgot to lock the bathroom. When one of her friends went near the bathroom, she saw that there was a razor and some other things which are useful for men. So they all thought that she was leading an immoral life. They told the boss about it: 'Look here, she has told you that she is unmarried. But there must be some one in her house, a male person. So she is leading an immoral life'. The boss told his wife to go to her and explain to her that it was very bad to lead an immoral life. So the boss's wife went to this woman and just shouted at her and railed at her saying: 'It is no good. You should not lead an immoral life'. Then the woman told her: 'It is because your husband has made this rule that no married woman will be allowed to serve. I am married. This is my wedding ring. This is my marriage certificate'. The boss's wife immediately went to her husband, the manager of the firm and told him: 'You are making these foolish rules, and this is the repercussion of that. So you must at once eliminate that rule and allow married women to serve in your firm'.

So that will be the case, supposing the Home Minister tries to have rules like that. If you want women to do their jobs as they like, if you want efficient service, then I suggest what the Government should do is to give them their rights, that means, the right of succession. Then they should say that if a man marries, he will get 25 per cent. increment so that his wife should not be required to work. If you pass such rules, then you need not be afraid that there will be inefficiency in the work or that married women will go after service and neglect their children.

[MR. DEPUTY-SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I would request the Home Minister that he should think over this issue and omit rule 5(3). Even after so many requests from all the women Members, he tries to keep it in the rules. I may just warn him, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, that fortunately I have an organisation, an all-India or-

[Shrimati Maydeo]

ganisation to which I have access, and we will not allow him sound sleep or peace of mind. He will be haunted always in his dreams by women threatening him and then ultimately he will have to detele this rule and get peace of mind.

**श्री पी० एन० राजभोज** : मेरा भी अमेंडमेंट हैं, इस लिये एक शिड्यूल्ड कास्ट का आदमी तो बोल सकता हैं ?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am going to call a Scheduled Cast representative, Shrimati Ganga Devi.

**श्रीमती गंगा देवी** (जिला लखनऊ व जिला बाराबंकी---रक्षित---अनुसूचित जातियां): अध्यक्ष महोदय, आज हमारे सामने बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण प्रश्न सदन में चल रहा हैं। यह हमारी समझ में नहीं आता कि एक तरफ तो हम लोगों से कहा जाता हैं कि आप को समानता का अधिकार दिया जा रहा हैं, और दूसरी ओर इस प्रकार का प्रतिबन्ध लगा कर हमारी उन्नति के रास्ते में रोड़ा अटकाया जाता हैं। इस प्रकार की बातों को देखते हुए हम यह नहीं कह सकते कि कभी भारत को स्वतन्त्र करने के लिये हम सभी स्त्री पुरुषों ने एक साथ अंगरेजों से मुकाबला किया था। जिस समय हम आजादी की लड़ाई में भाग ले रहे थे उस समय क्या हम आप से पीछे थीं ? क्या हमारे पास बच्चे नहीं थे ? क्या हमारी बहिनों के पास उस समय बच्चे नहीं थे ? क्या हमारे यहां की विवाहित स्त्रियां इस आजादी की लड़ाई में आगे नहीं आई थीं ? क्या वह किसी भी प्रकार से पीछे हटी थीं ? उस समय आप ने ऐसे रूल्स और ऐसे प्रतिबन्ध क्यों नहीं लगाये थे, कि विवाहित स्त्रियों को घर में बैठ कर बच्चों को देखना हैं। आज जब हमारा देश आजाद हो गया हैं, हम स्वतंत्र भारत के नागरिक हैं और स्वतंत्रता से विचरण करने का अधिकार रखते हैं, जबकि हम सभी स्वतंत्रता के वायुमंडल में सांस ले रहे हैं, ऐसे समय में यहां के स्त्री समाज के लिये एक ऐसा प्रतिबन्ध लगा कर हमें यह कहने का मौका दिया जा रहा हैं कि हमारे साथ हमारी सरकार न्याय नहीं कर रही हैं। हम यही सोचते थे कि हमें इस प्रकार की बातें कहने का मौका नहीं दिया जायेगा।

बहुत सी बातें हमारी बहिनों ने कही हैं, मैं उन को दोहराना नहीं चाहती। बहुत संक्षेप में केवल दो चार बातें कहना आवश्यक समझती हूं। हमारे होम मिनिस्टर साहब ने एक बात कही थी कि शादी के बाद विवाहित स्त्रियों की एफिशेन्सी कम हो जाती हैं और विवाह के बाद पुरुषों की एफिशेन्सी बढ़ जाती हैं। इस के लिये मैं यही कहूंगी कि जहां विवाहित स्त्रियों के लिये यह प्रतिबन्ध लगाया जाय कि वह किसी एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विस में न आयें वहां यह प्रतिबन्ध भी होना आवश्यक हैं कि जब तक पुरुषों की शादी न हो जाय तब तक वह किसी भी एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विस में न लिये जा सकें। इस प्रकार का प्रतिबन्ध अविवाहित भाइयों को एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विसेज में न लाने के लिए भी लगा देना, मेरे विचार से अति आवश्यक होना चाहिए।

दूसरी बात हम से यह कही जाती हैं कि जो पुरुष दो शादियां करता हैं उस को सरकारी सर्विस से रिजाइन करना पड़ेगा। ऐसी बातें कह कर हम लोगों को धोखे में डाल कर हमारी सम्मति ली जाय और ऐसा कानून बनाया जाय यह कहां तक ठीक हैं ? यह समय ऐसा नहीं हैं कि हमारा स्त्री समुदाय आसानी से धोखे में आ जाये। हम लोग आसानी से ऐसे प्रलोभनों में आ कर अपने सहयोग से ऐसे कानून नहीं बना सकतीं। अब समय ऐसा नहीं हैं। स्त्रियां हर एक काम कर सकती हैं। जो पुरुष नहीं कर सकते वह स्त्रियां कर सकती हैं। मैं ने किसी पुरुष को ऐसा नहीं देखा कि घर का और बाहर का दोनों काम करे। लेकिन हम बाहर का काम भी करती हैं और घर का काम भी नहीं छोड़तीं। हम अपने बच्चों के पालन पोषण करने में भी कोई कमी नहीं होने देतीं। कहा जाता हैं कि एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सरविस में हमें कभी कभी रात को ११, १२ या २ बजे जाना पड़ेगा। अब भी तो हम दो दो हफ्ते के लिए बाहर चली

जाती हैं और हमारे बच्चे घर पर रहते हैं । तो क्या अगर हम एक दिन दो एक घंटे के लिए रात को बाहर जायेंगी तो हमारे बच्चे नहीं रह सकेंगे ? मैं यह कहना चाहती हूं कि इस तरह के रूल बनाकर हमारे रास्ते में रोड़े न अटकाये जायं । जो स्त्रियां इस काबिल हैं और वहां जाना चाहती हैं वह खुशी से जायं ऐसा हम चाहती हैं । ऐसा नहीं होना चाहिए कि कानून बनाकर आप उन स्त्रियों के रास्ते में बन्धन लगा दें जो इस काम को करने योग्य हैं और जो इस काम को करने की इच्छुक भी हैं ।

दूसरी चीज यह है कि आप कहते हैं कि विवाह के बाद स्त्रियां ऐसी सरविस में न जायं । तो क्या विवाह के पहले उनको यह काम करना चाहिए, यह कहां तक ठीक हो सकता है यह हमारी समझ में नहीं आता । इसका तो मतलब यही है कि आप स्त्रियों को ऐसा हक देने के लिए तैयार ही नहीं हैं क्योंकि हमारे समाज में स्त्रियों को उसी समय बाहर निकलने की इजाजत मिलती है अब उनकी शादी हो जाती है । शादी से पहले माता पिता लड़कियों को कहां जाने भी नहीं देते । इसलिए इस प्रतिबन्ध का मतलब तो यही है कि कोई हिन्दू समाज की स्त्री इस प्रकार की सरविस में न आये । इस प्रकार के प्रतिबन्ध उनके लिए लगाकर उनकी तरक्की में रोड़े न अटकाये जायं । इसलिए मैं अपने होम मिनिस्टर साहब से यही प्रार्थना करूंगी कि वह इस रूल को कि विवाहित स्त्रियां एडमिनिस्ट्रेटिव सर्विस में न रक्खी जायं कानून में न लायें नहीं तो स्त्री समाज इसके विरुद्ध बलवा करेगा । उनको यह भी ख्याल रखना चाहिए कि इस जनरल इलेक्शन में स्त्रियों ने सरकार को कामयाब बनाने के लिए कितनी हिम्मत से काम किया, कितना आगे बढ़ कर काम किया । मैं यह कह सकती हूं कि मौजूदा सरकार को कामयाब बनाने में स्त्रियों का वोट अधिक था । अब फिर इलेक्शन आने वाला है । उन पर इस प्रकार का प्रतिबन्ध लगाकर हम सभी स्त्री समुदाय से विरोध मोल ले लेंगे और इस तरह से बहुत सी स्त्रियां सरकार के खिलाफ हो जायेंगी । इस चीज का भी आपको जरा ध्यान रखना चाहिए । यह न समझना चाहिए कि हमारा समय निकल गया है । आप ऐसा न समझिये कि हमने स्त्रियों की मदद से आजादी हासिल कर ली, लेकिन फिर ऐसा मौका नहीं आवेगा । मैं आपसे कहती हूं कि किसी समय ऐसी चीज से भी काम लिया जा सकता है जो कि कभी भी काम नहीं आती । अगर आप इस तरह से स्त्रियों के लिए सरविस के लिए प्रतिबन्ध लगावेंगे तो यह आपके लिए और देश के लिए भी खतरानाक चीज होगी ।

आनरेबल मिनिस्टर साहब ने कहा कि स्त्रियां कहती हैं कि जहां हमारे पति हैं वहीं हमारा ट्रांसफर कर दो । लेकिन मैं कहती हूं कि स्त्रियां ही ऐसा नहीं कहतीं पुरुष भी ऐसा कहते हैं कि जहां हमारी पत्नी हैं वहीं हमारा ट्रांसफर कर दिया जाय ताकि हम अपने बाल बच्चों के साथ ठीक से रह सकें । तो आप यह नहीं कह सकते कि स्त्रियों के अन्दर एफीशेंसी नहीं है, स्त्रियां यह नहीं कर सकतीं वह नहीं कर सकतीं । सरकार के लिए इस समय इस प्रकार का कानून न बनाना ही हितकर होगा ।

**Shri Gadgil** (Poona Central): Mr Deputy-Speaker, I will not refer to the assumed disabilities or the apprehended discrimination which has been referred to by most of the ladies so eloquently. My advice to them is to trust in the Prime Minister and, till the assurance materialises, to rule the men rather than rule the affairs of the country.

What I am concerned most, Sir, is with Rule 4, namely, the method of recruitment to the services. In this there is a significant omission and reference to this aspect of the rule was made by Mr. Raghuramaiah. Inasmuch as the Central Secretariat Services which were promised right from 1949 onwards that they would be given a definite place and some chance to be recruited to the Indian Administrative Services, that omission is, in my humble opinion, not in the best interests of the services and the

[Shri Gadgil]

proper administration of the Central Secretariat.

In 1948 and 1949, a good deal of attention and thought was given by the Government to this question and, after elaborate consultation with the Provincial Governments then, a certain scheme was drawn up, which was known as the Indian Administrative Service, Central Secretariat Scheme. That scheme was prepared by no less an experienced administrator than the late Gopalaswami Ayyangar and that scheme was approved by the States. There was some initial objection but, after explanations were offered, they were accepted and all the Provincial Governments accepted that scheme. That scheme shortly was this.

Out of the total number of officers that will man the Central Secretariat, 50 per cent. were to be from the I.A.S. Officers who will be given on deputation or a sort of tenure contract to the Central Secretariat; about 20 per cent. were to be on what was described as a quasi-permanent deputation on quota from the various States and about 30 per cent, were to be from the Central Secretariat Services themselves.

Now, this was an ideal arrangement and I cannot describe it better than to quote the words of the late Gopalaswami Ayyangar.

> "The scheme has evolved proposals which should eliminate the existing difficulty and produce an All India Service so organised and worked as to produce personnel not only for immediate requirements but the ultimate needs, which is as good as could be obtained under the existing circumstances."

One who is familiar with the working of the Central Secretariat will easily appreciate the great and important part the Central Services men play, not only in the formulation of the policies of the Government, but also in supplying the data, in fact, doing all the preliminary work so far as administrative decisions are concerned. In any good service which is charged with the duty of running a modern State, there must be two aspects present. One aspect is, there must be one cadre or, so to say, one service which will be the custodian of all the knowledge, which will be the custodian as regards procedure and routine. We might say whatever we like against red-tape but some minimum red-tape is absolutely necessary. The other aspect is that at a proper level of the hierarchy as well as at the proper stage of the life of the person concerned, there must be some sort of induction so as to secure freshness of outlook and some experience of actual administration in the field. From that point of view, this scheme which was proposed and approved by the Cabinet was an ideal one. I do not know why there has been a departure from this. As I understand, and I am informed, it was because the Chief Secretaries of the various States that met in conference about a few months back—I think in April last—came to the conclusion that these members of the Central Secretariat Service should not be recruited to the Indian Administrative Service.

If you refer to rule 4, the constitution is like this. Men could be recruited by competitive examination, and by promotion of members of the State Civil Services. If promotion of a member of a State Civil Service is considered to be good, correspondingly, on the same level is the service of Central Secretariat, Class I. Whether the people belong to the Central Secretariat Service, Class I, or to the Provincial Civil Service of a particular State, or they come through the open door of competitive examination, more or less they come from the same strata of society, more or less they have the same intellectual equipment and so on. Generally, it is the same, but there are, of course, brilliant exceptions who are far above the average, but speaking in terms of average, they are practically on the same

level. It happens as a mere chance or accident that if twenty are recruited, the boy is put at twenty-one. Does it mean that he is so inferior? Because he is recruited to the Central Secretariat Service, Class I, does it mean that all his future prospects or promotion should be barred? In any scheme of salary, in any pattern of service, a modern government has to see that there is continuous incentive right from the moment of recruitment to the day of retirement. You cannot ask the people to have the same enthusiasm, to show the same amount of energy and alertness in the work unless there is some incentive for them to do it. There is a time-scale which works on automatically. Thereafter, there is what is known as the scheme of selection, but even then, as you see the Provincial Service, there also people are recruited in certain percentage from the lower services to the Provincial Service. Here again, you have made provision that members of the Provincial Service should be recruited to the Indian Administrative Service. I fail to see what logic is there in preventing or excluding members belonging to the Central Secretariat Service, if they are otherwise suitable, from getting into the Indian Administrative Service. As I said, the principle of incentive and its importance cannot be belittled. I cannot do better than quote from the Report on Public Administration made by Mr. Gorwala—

> "It is very desirable that people in the lower grades of the public service should be given adequate opportunity to prove their fitness for more responsible work. What is necessary is to evolve a system by which those among the lower ranks who are fit for higher positions can be discovered and appointed; if they disclose talent, there should be scope for their advancement in the higher service."

Even assuming that one reaches the top post in the Central Secretariat Service, he cannot go beyond the post of Under Secretary. After serving, say, fifteen years of service, if he is to remain continuously with that status and if he is not to have any chance of getting into a higher category by way of promotion, provided he has got the requisite experience and talent, I think the morale of that Service will be considerably affected. There is a certain class consciousness in each cadre, whether you belong to the Central Secretariat Service, or the Provincial Service or the Indian Administrative Service. If a certain proportion from the lower grades can aspire to go high, then I think the morale is boosted and anything which goes contrary to this is bound to affect the efficiency of the administration. May I, therefore, suggest to the Government that if they want more time to think over the matter, they should certainly take more time. I also find the objection of the Chief Secretaries was not so much to the scheme as it is, but they were against what is known as the quasi-permanent deputation of members to the Indian Administrative Service from the respective provinces. Because they objected to a part of the scheme, it does not mean or it shall not be predicated as being opposition to the total scheme. If I interpret their objection correctly, then there is some hope and some justification for the Government to review the whole matter.

My humble submission is this. I am not concerned with A or B or C, but I am concerned with this matter because I have some experience, very humble experience, of five years' work in the Central Secretariat and I feel that top people may come and go, but those officers of the Central Secretariat Service, Class I, are there for years together and I may say they know much more than the Secretaries and certainly much more than the presiding Ministers—I mean no offence to anybody.

**The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh):** A very good confession!

**Shri Gadgil:** As citizens, what we tax-payers are concerned about is,

[Shri Gadgil]

that the Central Secretariat should be managed efficiently and that, for the purpose of efficiency, a proper constitution of a cadre for Central Service is an absolute necessity. I am conscious that people will say that these men must have district experience. You can send people who are selected, for a year or so in order that that objection can be removed. After all, the 'hard core' of the Central Secretariat Service is constituted by these people. Please do not do them any injustice, especially when you have promised in 1950 that you would implement the scheme in 1951. You started implementing a little and then dragged on, and complete implementation has not followed. Assurances were given to them by the predecessor of the present Home Minister, Shri C. Rajagopalachari, that no wrong would be done to them. Now, I am very sorry that there seems to be some wrong done if the rule remains as it is. I would, therefore, urge a review of the whole situation.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** I want to put one question, Sir.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** No. The hon. Home Minister will now reply.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** I want to put it because it is an insult to my community.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** May be.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** I am very sorry you are ignoring my community's problems. I have no confidence in the Home Minister so far as the Scheduled Castes' interests are concerned.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. The hon. Member cannot go on talking like this. The hon. Member always says on the floor of the House that he is the only and exclusive representative of the Scheduled Castes, which I refuse to recognise, and if he goes on interrupting like this, I will take very serious notice of it. There are other Members who are equally competent to represent the Scheduled Castes' interests. For instance, Shrimati Ganga Devi, who spoke, belongs to the Scheduled Castes.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** But she belongs to the Congress.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Let not the hon. Member again and again interrupt like this.

**Dr. Katju:** We have had a most interesting, a most eloquent and a most appealing debate. I have, however felt that it has been somewhat unrealistic and somewhat theoretical. Before I say a few words, I should like to draw your attention to the background. The background is the country becoming independent in 1947, and this question immediately cropped up. So far as Government is concerned, so far as people on this side of the House are concerned, they need no persuasion that in the field of public duty, men and women are absolutely equal and entitled to absolutely equal rights and equal opportunities. The only question was that public service should not in any way be prejudiced. The public servant exists for the purpose of serving the public. The public service does not exist for any particular class of people. This question cropped up and then a decision had to be taken, and it was taken in 1948 that in every public service of any description, men and women were entitled to equal admission, equal rights, but over and above that, there was the question that there might be some Services which might require additional qualifications and where this factor of marriage might prove an impediment. It is not a question of sex or difference between man and woman, but the question of the public interest should not be prejudiced in any way. A decision was taken. In regard to certain Services—the Prime Minister referred particularly to the Indian Foreign Service—this factor of marriage should be a relevant consideration. That policy was, in 1949, reinforced—I do not know whether on the floor of the House, but in actual fact it was reinforced—by my very distinguished and honoured predecessor, Sardar Patel.

Then came the Constitution. Some one asked: what about the provisions in the Constitution? The articles to which reference was made were 13, 14, 15 and 16. In fact, we did take legal opinion. The highest legal officer we have got, the Attorney-General, was consulted in July 1950 and he gave his clear opinion that this is not a case of drawing any distinction, or making any discrimination between sex and sex: it is only a question of safeguarding the public services from any prejudice which might be caused by the factor of marriage. As I said elsewhere, supposing a woman were to say: "Well, by the custom of my community or the injunction of my religion, I must keep on a *burqa;* I cannot appear before the ordinary public." Government may be justified in making a rule that for the Administrative services or any other Service, it is desirable that the applicant, or the servant concerned, if she is a woman, must appear in public and she must discard this seclusive habit." That has nothing to do with the sex.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani** *rose—*

**Dr. Katju:** I have got very little time—I must tell her—and I should be allowed to go on.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** This has been a ladies' day: I find from the list that most of the speakers have been ladies. Why should there be any interruption now?

**Dr. Katju:** Mr. Deputy-Speaker, I am going to adopt a rule not to look at any Member, but look at you only.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The Chair is sexless.

**Dr. Katju:** Government may make a rule that for a particular Service, every applicant should be of a height of five and a half feet. Now that would incapacitate and exclude many men and many women. But you cannot question it on the ground of sex.

So the Atorney-General gave us his opinion that there was no breaking, or defeating, or defying the letter of the all through from 1948 onwards. Then Constitution. That practice has stood came these rules. The Act for the establishment of the Indian Administrative Service was passed in 1951. The rules were drafted; the rules were sent out to all the State Governments. They took their own time in considering them. Please remember that the Indian Administrative Service is an all-India service; its members go to every single State. The cadre is primarily for every single State and then we take our quota for Central purposes. So, the States took time to consider the matter and finalised the draft. Then came the meeting of the Chief Secretaries and these rules represent the united wisdom, or unwisdom of all the State Governments. I am saying this not for the purpose of getting away with it. I have now become accustomed to the affection of my communist friends and the very fine references that they sometimes make to me over and over again. But I cannot take credit for the wisdom of these rules, because, as I said, it is the concentrated wisdom of all the State Governments of India.

In the first place, the speeches which were delivered by my hon. friends, the lady Members of this House, would lead one to believe that this rule applies to every single married woman in every public service. Nothing of the kind. It only applies to one Service and no other Service. There is no such bar in the Teaching Service, in the Educational Service, in the Engineering Service, in the Indian Medical Service—there must be about fifty Services; then you have the Central Secretariat, Provincial Secretariat, Class I Service, Class II Service, etc. etc. It applies only to one Service, namely, the Indian Administrative Service.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad** (Purnea *cum* Santal Parganas): But why?

**Dr. Katju:** I am coming to it.

As the Prime Minister pointed out, it is not exclusive; there is nothing absolute. It does not say you cannot come in. It is a permissive thing; you have no absolute right to come in.

[Dr. Katju]

Now what is the Indian Administrative Service. If you become a doctor, very well, you are working in your dissection room, or operation theatre, or giving medicines for typhoid, and so on. Similarly, if you are a teacher, you are working under comfortable conditions in a lecture room, in a College or University, or in a class room in a school. If you are an engineer, there you are standing over there. working—you may do what you like. If you are a Secretary, whether you are a first-class Secretary, Joint Secretary, Deputy Secretary, or Under Secretary, you are there working all right. But unfortunately or fortunately, it is only in this Service, that you have to deal with other men's lives. I am not suggesting for one moment that it is only a man who can deal with other men's lives. Of course, women can do it. They brought everyone of us into this world.

The Indian Administrative Service by its very nature—it consists of perhaps, 400 or 500 members, I am not sure of the number,—may have to shoulder enormous responsibilities at a time of which no notice may be given in advance. My hon. friend quoted me and said that he did not know what the word "tazias" means. This is the month of *Moharrum* and in Northern India, you know, Mr. Deputy-Speaker, that at any time trouble may flare up in the *Dussehra* processions or *tazia* processions. The District Magistrate or the Sub-Divisional Officer may at dead of night receive a notice: "Come along".

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** How many women went out to work during the riots?

**Dr. Katju:** I have taken a vow that I shall not answer that.

Mr. Deputy-Speaker, the risks involved are great and Government have taken the view that the Central Government should have the power to see to it that women, however fit they may be otherwise, may not endanger public security because of the factor of their marriage.

**Shrimati Tarkeshwari Sinha:** On a point of clarification: I want to know from the Home Minister.....

**Dr. Katju:** I have heard of points of order, not points of clarification.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order, the hon. Minister may be allowed to go on.

**Dr. Katju:** Whenever any Member raises a point of clarification, I consider it as a confession of his or her inability to comprehend: I do not want any Member should make that confession.

We are discussing a very serious matter. I do not want to go into those other matters. That was the aim and object of the rule as it has been framed and as it has been working for the last seven years. No one has quoted a single instance, either by name or without name, of any injustice having been done. No one has said that any representation was made and that somebody was thrown out. It is not merely a question of personal advantage or disadvantage. Government has to take notice of the possibility, the remote possibility, that cases may occur where grave harm may be done to the public interest because of the inefficiency, supposed inefficiency, possible inefficiency of the person at the head of the Department.

**Shri Bhagwat Jha Azad:** Can you quote an instance?

**Dr. Katju:** There is no suggestion that in India, unlike Russia, the Government does not want to utilise the talents of Indian womanhood for the purpose of building canals, for the purpose of building bridges, constructing houses. Let them become engineers. Who prevents them from becoming engineers; or becoming scientists—he is not here—or becoming colleagues of Dr. Meghnad Saha? There you have to go. Let them marry husbands. I am only waiting for the day that might come—I hope it might come in my lifetime—when Indian ladies would adorn the Benches of our High Courts and dispense equal and impartial justice. Who prevents them? Who prevents them from becoming teachers,

Superintendents or going to Medical Colleges and other institutions?

That is just one thing. And of course it gave an opportunity to every lady Member of this House, with the permission of the Deputy-Speaker and the Chairman, to come forth and declare as if some heavens had fallen upon them and they are excluded from every service in India. That is something which I do not want.

I do not want to carry on this, because I should like to make it quite clear. The Prime Minister has said that these are rules which have been made, these are not parts of the law, they can be changed by Government. I undertake to consider every single thing that has been said, matter of substance, leaving aside the eloquence part of it. And if there is any substance,—I want to please all of you, I am not wedded to anything—I shall examine. My friend there was reading her amendment: If you bring marriage this way or that way it would be more graceful. I shall examine the language, and if your purpose would be served by putting marriage in a positive or negative form, there is no harm in doing that.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Is there a negative marriage also?

**Dr. Katju:** There is one thing which may require examination. That may be a sort of omission. I should like to get the benefit of the opinion of the lady Members on that topic. It is this. The rule provides specifically that a public servant who marries two wives, well, shall be got rid of, because bigamy is not provided for.

**Acharya Kripalani:** If he has a mistress, what happens?

**Dr. Katju:** My friend is in the habit of putting very persuasive and, what shall I say, seductive questions. It is very difficult to answer them.

I was pointing out—I ask all the lady Members to pay particular attention to that—under the existing rule if a man marries a second wife, well, he goes. What is to happen if the second wife whom he has married is also a public servant? If a woman who is a public servant knowingly marries a man who is also a public servant and who has got an existing wife (who is not a widower), now the husband goes because he marries a second time. But the woman does not marry a second time by marrying a man who has got a first wife. So far as that woman is concerned it is her first marriage. Do you want that she should also go? I only want a clear consideration because we are going to consider the rules and drafting the rules and the substance of the rules. This is a matter which requires serious consideration from their side. Would you like, please understand the question.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister will kindly address the Chair.

**Dr. Katju:** The question is this—so that there may be no difficulty about it—if a man who is a public servant marries a second time he jeopardizes his employment. But the second wife is also a public servant, and with her eyes open she marries a public servant who is already married; she becomes a second wife to a public servant. Do my hon. friends, the lady Members, want that something should be done to that second wife or she should be left alone?

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Let her lose her job.

**डा० काटजू :** अभी नहीं सुनना चाहता । पहले आप कन्सल्टेशन कर लीजिये ।

I suggest they might hold a conference about it consisting of the lady Members of both Houses of Parliament and the one hundred and fifty girls whom they have brought to Delhi, to the Parliament Hall. Let them sit and give an answer to that question. It is a fundamental question. It interferes with the fundamental right of a woman to marry whomsoever she likes.

**Shrimati Sucheta Kripalani:** Will the Home Minister preside over the conference?

**Dr. Katju:** I want to be serious now. Very many references, personal references, have been made to me. The ball was set rolling by my hon. friend over there.

**Acharya Kripalani:** Because you are so popular.

**Dr. Katju:** In spite of my attempts and my previous membership of the Communist Party I could not understand.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** Were you ever a member of the Communist Party?

**Dr. Katju:** That has been followed, and I really do not know what has been said and what has not been said. If you were to enumerate the occasions on which the word Home Minister has been used, it must be five hundred. I want to say one thing very seriously. I have now lived in public life for some time. But I have the good fortune of having been brought up by a mother who never was a member of a legislative assembly, who lived the life of a Hindu woman. She was born in 1859, and died at the age of eighty in 1939. It was at her breast that I learnt that man and woman are equals, they are entitled to equal opportunity, and a woman is entitled to live a life of her own. I tell you I would be false to her if I were to think of any condition in which a woman was to live a life of subordination. I would rather like to die first than do that. My lady friends might like to have a look at it, and I want with your permission, Sir, to present to the House and lay on the Table a narrative which I have written about her. It may do her good and I may be understood.

**Dr. Rama Rao** (Kakinada): In her name, please withdraw this rule.

**Dr. Katju:** It pained me to hear "Is the Home Minister a Ramchandra or *Devata* or what?" And they say the Prime Minister is very good. Otherwise, if the Prime Minister had not intervened I might have been torn into pieces by all these kind hearted people. What have I done? In these rules I have given everything.

So, Sir, with your permission I shall lay this on the Table.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** The hon. Minister knows quite well that unless he referred to any passage in the book here, it cannot be laid on the Table of the House. With all respects it will be received and kept in the Library.

**Dr. Katju:** That is all right. I do not want to make a record of it.

I only want to say in the end that while many friends here have been repeating—I do not know whether seriously or light-heartedly—this thing about equality and that discrimination should not be done, I personally venture to say that there are very few men in India who believe more strongly—and have believed so for the last fifty years—of this cult about equality of man and woman, than myself. I say India cannot prosper, cannot make any progress at all unless we hold our womenfolk genuinely and with all the earnestness that they are equal and entitled to equal opportunity that India owes to them.

6 P.M.

**Shri P. N. Rajabhoj:** On a point of order, Sir,.....

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order. There is no point of order, now.

**Dr. Katju:** May I ask the Deputy Minister to say a few words, Sir? Or, do you propose to call him?

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am not going to call him. There is no time.

**श्री पी० एन० राजभोज :** हमने अमेंडमेंट नम्बर ६ ऑफर किया है। उसके बारे में मिनिस्टर साहब ने कुछ नहीं कहा।

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Order, order please. There is no time.

**Dr. Katju:** With reference to the point raised by my hon. friend, Shri Gadgil, about the Central Secretariat Service, in the summary it was said that the matter was raised in the Chief Secretaries Conference and the Government

have not decided it. Government are considering the whole matter and if necessary we will make a reference to the Cabinet, and see that there is no hardship there. He can trust me, I shall see that there is no hardship.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** I am sorry, this debate is to conclude by 6 o'clock. It is now six o'clock. I am not in a position to call upon the Deputy Minister for Home Affairs to intervene in the debate.

I shall now put the motions to the vote of the House. We have the Half-an-hour discussion. I shall now put the motion of Shri V. P. Nayar.

**Pandit Thakur Das Bhargava:** May I suggest that in view of the statement of the Prime Minister, it is more desirable that these motions should be withdrawn rather than pressed. Ultimately, they may be brought again, if necessary. As the Prime Minister said, there should be no negative vote on the matter. I would request my friends, Shri V. P. Nayar and others, to withdraw them.

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** There is this obvious difficulty. Under the All India Services Act, it is absolutely necessary that we should record our vote.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Should there be any discussion on this? Are all of them willing to withdraw?

**Shri V. P. Nayar:** No.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** Now, the motion standing in the name of Shri V. P. Nayar.

The question is:

"This House resolves that in pursuance of sub-section (2) of section 3 of the All India Services Act, 1951, the Indian Administrative Service (Recruitment) Rules, 1954, laid on the Table on the 10th September, 1954, be repealed.

This House recommends to the Rajya Sabha that the Rajya Sabha do concur in the said resolution."

*The motion was negatived.*

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** I hope that hon. Minister had reference to my motion when he said that he will consider it.

**Dr. Katju:** Yes.

**Shri Raghuramaiah:** In view of the assurance, I beg to withdraw.

*The motion was, by leave, withdrawn.*

**Shri Thimmaiah:** I beg to withdraw all other motions.

**Some hon. Members:** All motions withdrawn.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** All right.

*The motions were, by leave, withdrawn.*

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## ALLEGATIONS OF CORRUPTION AGAINST THE DEPUTY SHIPPING MASTER, CALCUTTA PORT

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee** (Calcutta North-East): I want to raise a discussion.

**Mr. Deputy-Speaker:** For the consideration of hon. Members. Because on this Half-an-hour discussion there would not be any vote, hon. Members need not draw my attention to the lack of quorum. By that I do not mean that hon. Members should go and there should be no quorum. There is an intresting debate. They may continue to sit. Notwithstanding the absence of Members here or there, inasmuch as no voting will take place, the House will sit and adjourn after discussing this at 6-30.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair.*]

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** I want to raise a discussion because of the unsatisfactory nature of certain answers which I elicited by means of a question on the 17th September, 1954. On that day, I was told by the Minister of Transport that Government was aware of the serious allegations of corruption which were published in the *Modern Review* of Calcutta dated September, 1948 as well as other papers against the Deputy Shipping Master of Calcutta Port. I was also told that the Special Police

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Establishment of the Government of India had asked for sanction for prosecution of the said officer after it had made certain investigations. I was also informed that instead of a prosecution being launched as recommended by the Special Police Establishment, a departmental enquiry was ordered. I was also told that during the pendency of the enquiry, the said officer was not put under suspension. I was further informed that as a result of the enquiry, that officer had been completely exonerated.

This is not a personal matter. I know nothing, as far as I am concerned, about that officer against whom these allegations were made. But, I would like the House to take a very serious note of the way in which this matter has been handled.

Towards the end of the first session of Parliament, I think it was in the last week of July 1952, my attention was drawn to these publications, *Modern Review* for September, 1948, and a weekly from Bombay called *Atom*, in which these allegations were published. When I saw these allegations, I thought they were serious enough and I sent copies of these papers to my hon. friend the Minister for Transport. I shall quote from the *Modern Review* for September, 1948, which I have got from the Parliament Library here, in order to show the serious nature of the allegations which were made. The *Modern Review* of September, 1948, on page 174 says:

"A worse instance of corruption has come from the Shipping Office at Calcutta. This office is under the charge of a Shipping Master, whose main functions are to look after the interests of Indian seamen who come under the purview of the Indian Merchant Shipping Act to act as disbursing officer in the transactions taking place between Indian seamen and the Masters or agents of the different sea-going vessels who employ them. During the war, the seamen engaged by the agents were sanctioned various allowances which amounted more or less to five times their wages. This huge sum was deposited on account of these seamen engaged from the Calcutta port with the Shipping Master, Calcutta, by the various owners and agents of ships. The decision of the Government of India was that the amount so deposited with the Government would become payable to the respective seamen on the cessation of hostilities. The total amount thus deposited with the Shipping Master amounted to nearly Rs. 2 crores. After the official declaration made by the Government of India of the cessation of war, disbursement of this money on claims of seamen has been going on. These deposits are known as post-war credit deposits. Allegations appeared in the Calcutta Daily *Bharat* to the effect that a number of officers have been misappropriating large sums of money out of these deposits on false and fictitious vouchers. After the Partition, many of the seamen have left for Pakistan. Some of them died; some remain untraced. It is, therefore, not much difficult to draw money in their names on production of false vouchers. Mushroom trade unions have come into being and they are also drawing large amounts in league with the officials. It was alleged by some newspaper that a Muslim office-bearer of some seamen's trade union was freely allowed to draw heavy sums under cheques issued in his favour by the Shipping Master without the production of any legal authority in the form of a power of attorney or other authority to receive payment.

"The disclosures were followed by a search of the shipping office by the Special Police of the Government of India posted in Calcutta. An Under Secretary of the Commerce Department also came down for investigation, but the said newspaper in a later comment pointed out that this was the same official who had made previous

inspection of that office while the alleged fraud was going on. Somebody else not familiar with that group should have been sent down. Nothing has since been heard of either about the police investigation or the starting of any legal proceedings. Instead, two employees on the audit staff, possibly suspected of having let out the uncomfortable information, have been discharged without assigning any reason."

Then, this paper makes an appeal to the then Minister of Commerce, Mr. K. C. Neogy, to go into the matter personally and do the needful.

Now, I got a polite note of acknowledgment from the Minister of Transport, but nothing happened. Then there was occasion for me to refer to this matter again. On the 27th February, 1954, discussing the Control of Shipping (Amendment) Bill, I referred to this matter and I said that I heard a departmental enquiry was going on but I thought in the circumstances a judicial enquiry was very much more called for. On that occasion, the Deputy Minister for Transport who replied to the debate did not choose to refer to this point which I had made.

Now, the Special Police, Government of India, investigated this matter in 1949. I do not exactly know when the Special Police recommended that Government should give sanction to prosecute the Deputy Shipping Master. Now, nothing happened afterwards, for four long years, it seems. It was not until September, 1953, that a departmental enquiry was started.

Only the other day a question was asked of the Minister of Planning regarding the Planning Commission's report on corruption and regarding the steps that Government were taking. We were told in answer to starred question No. 1161 on the 21st of this month in this House that Government was very keen about checking and punishing cases of corruption and it was said that the Ministry of Home Affairs have issued instructions for the expeditious disposal of proceedings against Government servants.

In this case, in 1949 the Special Police, Government of India, made certain recommendations but it was only in September, 1953, that a departmental enquiry was started against the officer concerned. The enquiry was also conducted by an officer who belonged to the same department. A Deputy Director-General of Shipping, I understand went to Calcutta to make investigations in regard to this matter.

In this period of investigation, the officer concerned was not suspended. I do not know why this was not done. We all know the case of the former Director-General of the All-India Radio who was suspended and then, I suppose, he was removed; and he was suspended because there was an enquiry being conducted against him. That was not a judicial enquiry, but in any case,—that was perhaps a departmental enquiry—the officer, in spite of his high status, was suspended. But in this case, he was not suspended. I have also heard from people who work in the Calcutta Port that when the enquiry was in progress, the officer was there. He had free access to all the files and records of the shipping office. He used the services of several clerks under him in order to prepare his case. This is very disturbing because I am sure that it produces a very bad impression on the staff. It demoralises them if this is the kind of treatment which is going to be meted out, if this kind of ultra-soft treatment is going to be meted out to high-placed officers.

The report of the Special Police Establishment Enquiry Committee of 1949-52, a committee on which, you, Sir, I find served with distinction, gives me a lot of information as to how the Central investigating agency works. It seems investigation is started on information received from a reliable source. If the information appears on the face of it to be *bona fide* the case is registered and investigation commences. And then daily case diaries are received by the Inspector-General and the

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

whole process is followed. This is all to the good. Now, in spite of that, the Special Police recommendations regarding sanction for prosecution was simply ignored, and when after nearly four years a departmental enquiry was started, the officer concerned was not suspended.

I find that it is not known whether the Union Public Service Commission was consulted or whether it concurred in the Government decision regarding the closure of this case. Some gazetted officers have been involved in this case, and I think that the Union Public Service Commission should have been consulted before the case was declared to have been closed.

I have also been informed that at an earlier stage, in 1949 roughly, there was another high-placed gazetted officer, his superior in service, actually the then Shipping Master in Calcutta, who was found guilty. On the finding of the Union Public Service Commission some punishment was given to that officer in the latter part of 1949. But, for some reason or other into which I have no means of going, this particular officer, the Deputy Shipping Master, has not been touched at all.

**Mr. Chairman:** Order, order. I do not want to interfere with the speech of the hon. Member, but he must be aware that he has taken fifteen minutes, and at least fifteen minutes may be required by the Minister to reply.

**Shri V. P. Nayar** (Chirayinkil): Ten minutes only. He started only at 6-05.

**Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** I shall finish now. I have not got much more to say.

I find that with regard to this particular officer a course of conduct has been pursued which, to my mind, appears to be absolutely inexplicable. I have heard—I do not know, I do not mention names, I do not wish to bring in personalities—but I have heard that the officer whom I have named has many influential connections. That is the kind of story which is current in the office there. And in view of all these circumstances, in view of the long delay over this whole process, in view of the fact that in 1948 very serious charges were made, in view of the fact that in 1949 the Special Police Establishment recommended sanction for prosecution by the Government, in view of the fact that nearly four years were allowed to go and then a departmental enquiry was instituted, in view of the fact that we have no information regarding any reference to the Union Public Service Commission. I feel the answer was very unsatisfactory, that certain points of principle are involved and I wish to call upon the Government to give the House satisfaction on this issue.

**The Minister of Railways and Transport (Shri L. B. Shastri):** Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is good that this matter has been brought up here and Shri Mukerjee has had his say.

This case is a very old one. It is true and I am prepared to accept that there has been delay in the disposal of this case, but various factors led to this delay which could not be avoided.

Before I give a brief history of this case, I would like to tell Shri Mukerjee that he is perhaps after officers who were really not guilty. Those who were the real culprits have gone out of India. Well, in any case, even against those people also, only if the case could be proved some action could have been taken, but from the reports that I have got it appears to me that those people who are no longer in India and have gone over to Pakistan were responsible—they can be or they should be held responsible—for this case of alleged defalcation, and as they are not here, well, it is not possible to do anything further in the matter.

I would not like to name them, but anyhow, I might mention that some office-bearers of the union and particularly Mr. Suraj Ali was responsible to some extent, or to a great extent, for the matters which have been referred to by Shri Mukerjee.

The allegations made in the *Modern Review*—they have not named him—were perhaps against the Shipping Master who was at that particular moment in charge of the whole show, and that Shipping Master also happened to be a Muslim and he has also gone over to Pakistan. So, Mr. Suraj Ali and the Shipping Master can be partly held or mainly held responsible, if the case had been proved; but it cannot be proved now.

I might tell Shri H. N. Mukerjee that the police investigation started into this case as early as 1948. Their final reports were received by the Government of India in August 1950, and the Special Police Establishment recommended prosecution of Shri T. V. Rajagopalan, Shri Banerjee, Shri Ghosh and some others; and the reports of the Special Police Establishment were examined by the Transport Ministry, in consultation with the Director-General of Shipping, Bombay.

In April 1951, the Ministry of Law were requested to advise if there was a *prima facie* case to justify a prosecution. The Ministry of Law considered that some evidence was available in support of a *prima facie* case that there was a conspiracy in respect of the post-war credit money, though there still remain some loopholes in the investigation. The matter, was referred to the Home Ministry, and when they were consulted, they came to the conclusion that since evidence could not be produced to obtain a conviction in a court of law, the case should not be sent to a court, but the desirability of taking departmental action should be examined. This is what was suggested by the Home Ministy. They also advised—which they generally do not do—that the Special Police Establishment might be associated with the departmental proceedings, and that the required evidence and documents could be produced by them before the inquiry officer. Shri H. N. Mukerjee, I think, will feel convinced that in this case, proper care was taken to go into this matter, not only by the Transport Ministry, but also by the Law Ministry and the Home Ministry. Under the advice of the Home Ministry, we held a departmental enquiry.

I may also make it clear that the enquiry was held not by an officer of the Transport Ministry, but by an I.A.S. officer of the Bengal Government. Previously,—some time back—he was an officer under the Transport Ministry. Perhaps he was working as a magistrate in the Bengal Government. We took special precautions about this, because we felt that it would be advisable to get this enquired into by an officer who had nothing to do with the Transport Ministry. This was more or less a judicial enquiry, because the Special Police Establishment were given the power to prosecute the case, and to conduct the case before the inquiry officer, and they were allowed to produce documents and evidence.

The enquiry was somewhat delayed on account of the selection of the officer too. We were writing to many different authorities for giving us an officer, but they were not able to do so. When the matter was brought to my notice, and when Shri H. N. Mukerjee referred to this in this House, I took personal interest, and asked the Transport Ministry to get the whole thing expedited. And within a very short period, we could manage to get an officer from the Bengal Government, Mr. Neogy, an I.A.S. officer.

That officer has gone into the whole matter. I might perhaps correct myself here. What Mr. Mukerjee said was correct. I was under the impression that he was not working in the Transport Ministry. But he was working in the Transport Ministry at that moment as Deputy Director-General, Shipping. But, as I just now told him, he is an I.A.S. officer. And it was a judicial inquiry, in the sense that the Special Police Establishment had conducted the case against these officers and all evi-

[Shri L. B. Shastri]

dence and records were produced by them. After having gone into the matter, the officer has submitted his report to the Transport Ministry. It is true that the matter was not brought up before me because the Transport Secretary is the appointing and punishing authority. He went through the recommendations of Shri Neogy and came to some conclusions. I shall read out what he has said:

"From the facts brought out during the inquiry and the circumstances of the case, the following points appear to be clearly established:

(a) that none of the three officers concerned had any responsibility in the matter of initiating the procedure for making payments to Suraj Ali on the basis of nominations made in application forms;

(b) that in respect of the 13 cheques signed by Shri Rajagopalan, there is no doubt regarding their disbursement to Suraj Ali and their having been duly credited to an account of the Union;

(c) that there is nothing to suggest that the procedure of making these payments was devised for any improper purpose or actuated by any imporper motives.

It is also clear that the responsibility for initiating the procedure and for its continuance after the receipt of the Government of India's letter of 19th March, 1947, was solely that of the Shipping Master and that the conduct of Shri Rajagopalan in his repeated attempts to defer payments until Government's approval was received is incompatible with any guilty or improper motive on his part."

He has further said:

"The inquiry has revealed that the records pertaining to the payments during the period were not properly maintained, but the responsibility for this state of affairs must primarily be that of the officers directly in charge of this section namely, the Assistant Shipping Master, and the head of the office, the Shipping Master, who apparently failed in his duties in laying down a proper detailed procedure for the checking and filing of records. In any event, it will be difficult to hold that either Shri Rajagopalan or Shri Ghosh or Shri Banerjee were guilty of 'misconduct in the discharge of their duties as public servants by committing criminal breach of trust in respect of payments of PWC money'.

"Viewed against this background, the findings of the inquiry officer exonerating the three officers from blame on the different counts of charge relating to PWC money appear to be perfectly reasonable. I accordingly accept these findings and the recommendations based thereon".

This is the final decision given by the Transport Secretary.

Mr. Mukerjee said that an amount of Rs. 2 crores was involved. That is not correct. I have not got the figures. Perhaps, it does not go over Rs. 2 lakhs, but it does not matter wheher it is Rs. 2 lakhs or Rs. 2 crores. Anyhow, there was some complaint about the defalcation or the misuse of that money.

I might also state that the reasons for not suspending the officer were that the Special Police Establishment did not ask for this in this case. Generally, in such cases they demand the suspension of the officers. But, on behalf of the Transport Ministry, they were assured that if any accused officer was found to be hampering their investigation, he would be suspended. But, none of the officers came to the adverse notice of the police.

Secondly, when the decision to hold a departmental enquiry was taken in early 1952, the accused officials had already been working in the Calcutta Shipping Master's Office for nearly five years since the date of the alleged incriminating transactions and nothing adverse had been recorded or reported against them. It was not, therefore, considered necessary to suspend them. But, as I said, the Minister of Transport had ordered that, if, during the course of the enquiry, it was found that any of the accused officers were hampering the enquiry in any way, they might be suspended.

Generally, suspension of an officer is not resorted to unless a preliminary enquiry has been made or unless there is strong *prima facie* evidence which will reasonably ensure his ultimate conviction. There was, therefore, no case for dislocating government business by suspending the accused officers in 1952, when they had already served for about 4 or 5 years in the same office.

I shall not take more time of the House. But, I can tell Shri Mukerjee that I do not want to defend or support any officer who is found to have been guilty. But, I have no alternative but to take a different course when the Home Ministry, after looking into the case fully, comes to the conclusion that only departmental action should be taken and no prosecution should be launched. I may also tell Shri Mukerjee that the Transport Secretary is a very senior and level-headed officer and I can say about him also that he would never like to suppress any wrong deed or help a wrong or a guilty officer.

*The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Wednesday, the 29th September, 1954.*